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FEB. 11, P. M.

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-59 BAE JAN.-MAR. 1952

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board February 1, 1952

SUMMARY

Food supplies for 1952 are expected to be sufficient to maintain domestic food consumption per person at least as high as in 1951. Substantial stocks of storable foods are available from last year's crops and the output of most livestock products and winter crops is relatively large. If weather conditions are about normal and livestock marketings follow usual patterns, the year's output of food for sale and farm home consumption may set a new record.

Current indications are that military procurement of food may not be much different from that of 1951, and food exports are likely to be down some. Perhaps 10 percent of the total food supply may go into military and export channels, about the same as 1951. Even so, total supplies for civilian consumption in this country are expected to exceed total consumption in the past year.

With employment and consumer incomes at high levels, civilian demand for food has continued strong for some months. Supplies of most foods have been adequate to meet the demand with relatively little change in retail prices other than seasonal movements. Much the same situation is expected to prevail at least until the 1952 crops begin to move to market. Accordingly, little change in the general level of food prices is likely during the late winter and early spring.

Some increase in civilian per capita consumption over 1951 rates is likely in 1952 for beef, poultry products, fluid milk, ice cream, fats and oils except butter, processed fruits, frozen vegetables, and sweetpotatoes. But some decline is expected in the cases of butter and sugar, and possibly fresh fruit. These estimates are based on available information on livestock numbers, feed supplies, food stocks, the rates of production of foodstuffs in recent years, and probable non-civilian takings.

The over-all rate of civilian food consumption per capita for 1951 is now estimated at about 13 percent above the 1935-39 average, but final data on livestock slaughter and food processing operations in 1951 and

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1941, 1945-50 and estimates for 1951, with percentage comparisons

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1941	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 prel. 1/	1951 as a percentage of 1950
Food grains 2/	131	155	164	197	189	166	148	144	97
Truck crops 3/	116	142	152	140	143	144	145	158	109
Fruits and nuts 4/	113	113	133	126	115	122	126	126	100
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 5/	100	110	128	107	124	115	115	90	78
Sugar crops 6/	97	94	103	110	91	93	112	87	78
Total food crops 7/	116	130	144	147	144	137	134	128	96
Meat animals 8/	117	147	145	145	134	139	141	143	101
Poultry 9/	120	170	160	157	153	170	182	194	107
Dairy products 10/	110	119	119	117	114	117	118	117	99
Total food livestock	115	142	139	138	131	138	142	144	101
Food production	115	139	140	140	134	138	140	140	100
Agricultural production, food and nonfood	113	134	137	136	138	141	138	141	102
Civilian per capita food consumption	109	114	119	115	111	111	111	113	102

1/ Production estimates are based on the December crop report and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1951. 2/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat. 3/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes). 4/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts. 5/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes. 6/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup. 7/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops. 8/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs. 9/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers. 10/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Total food utilization: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average and 1940 to 1951 1/

Year	Total food utilization	Source of total food: Food production	Imports	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Distribution: Civilian including military feeding	Military, military civilian feeding	Department of Agriculture 2/: Net purchases	Deliveries	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Commercial exports and shipments 3/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Section a. Percentage of food utilization in each year												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	100.0	95.1	5.5		.6	98.0						2.0
1941	100.0	94.4	5.8		.2	93.8	2.0	2.4	1.9		.5	1.8
1942	100.0	94.2	3.7	2.1		87.2	5.8	5.9	4.5		1.4	1.1
1943	100.0	95.8	4.8		.6	81.4	9.6	8.1	7.1		1.0	.9
1944	100.0	94.0	5.0	1.0		79.7	13.2	6.0	6.5	.5		1.1
1945	100.0	95.7	4.8		.5	82.3	4/ 12.0	4.2	5.2	1.0		1.5
1946	100.0	96.1	4.3		.4	89.7	4/ 3.2	4.4	5.2	.8		2.7
1947	100.0	95.4	4.8		.2	89.7	4/ 3.3	2.9	2.8		.1	4.1
1948	100.0	94.8	5.1	.1		91.4	4/ 3.5	2.1	2.2	.1		3.0
1949	100.0	95.4	5.0		.4	91.1	4/ 3.2	2.4	1.6		.8	3.3
1950	100.0	95.0	5.2		.2	93.1	4/ 2.0	1.6	1.4		.2	3.3
1951 Prel.	100.0	94.9	5.0	.1		90.3	4/ 3.7	1.0	1.9	.9		5.0
Section b. Percentage of 1935-39 food utilization												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	109.6	104.2	6.0		.6	107.4						2.2
1941	114.4	108.0	6.7		.3	107.3	2.3	2.7	2.2		.5	2.1
1942	125.6	118.3	4.7	2.6		109.5	7.3	7.4	5.6		1.8	1.4
1943	131.3	125.8	6.3		.8	106.9	12.7	10.6	9.3		1.3	1.1
1944	139.9	131.5	7.0	1.4		111.4	18.4	8.5	9.1	.6		1.6
1945	136.4	130.5	6.6		.7	112.2	4/ 16.4	5.7	7.1	1.4		2.1
1946	136.7	131.5	5.8		.6	122.6	4/ 4.3	6.1	7.1	1.0		3.7
1947	137.7	131.4	6.6		.3	123.7	4/ 4.5	3.9	3.8		.1	5.6
1948	132.8	125.8	6.9	.1		121.4	4/ 4.7	2.7	2.8	.1		4.0
1949	135.9	129.6	6.9		.6	123.9	4/ 4.3	3.2	2.2		1.0	4.5
1950	138.3	131.5	7.2		.4	128.8	4/ 2.7	2.3	2.0		.3	4.5
1951 Prel.	138.6	131.5	6.9	.2		125.2	4/ 5.2	1.4	2.6	1.2		6.8

1/ The upper section of the table divides the total utilization in each year (1) according to the source of the food and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total utilization figures and the break-down are in an index number basis, that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The utilization figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower section contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food utilization in 1935-39 instead of total utilization each year. 2/ The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are food for lend-lease, relief, and purchases for foreign governments, except meat transactions in the drought years. These quantities are measured (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks are included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. When Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased, stocks were built up; and vice versa. 3/ For the war years, these data indicate the commercial portion of exports and shipments, which is total exports and shipments minus the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture. 4/ Including procurement for relief feeding in areas occupied by our armed forces.

A study: "Spice Supplies in the United States, 1918-1950" is available on request.

end-of-year stocks are not yet in. Civilians apparently consumed somewhat more of the following foods on a per capita basis in 1951 than in 1950: pork, poultry products, fluid milk and cream, lard, margarine, fresh fruits, canned and frozen fruit juices, dried fruits, and frozen vegetables. Somewhat less of these foods was consumed: beef, veal, lamb and mutton, evaporated milk, cheese, shortening, vegetable oils used for salad and cooking purposes, canned fruits, and sweetpotatoes.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES

Review of 1951

Retail food prices in large cities were fairly stable after the early part of 1951, but for the year as a whole averaged about 11 percent above 1950, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The price index for each food group was higher than that of a year earlier, with the largest increases reported for eggs and fats and oils. The index for sugar and sweets advanced only slightly.

The higher price level for 1951 developed from the initial upsurge after the Korean outbreak and a second sharp increase from November 1950 into the early part of the following year. Despite continued increases in consumer incomes, prices in 1951 rose only 3 percent from February to December because of large current supplies of food, accumulated inventories, and the imposition of price controls on many foods. The price changes that occurred after the winter season came partly from seasonal variations in food supplies and partly from increases in production and distribution costs. The December index for fats and oils was 11 percent lower than in early spring, and that for dried fruits and vegetables was down about 7 percent. Egg prices advanced each month until November, and then declined sharply in December.

The civilian demand for food remained relatively strong throughout the year because of the record levels of income and employment generated by the high rate of economic activity. There were no flurries of "scare buying" after the one which occurred early in the year. Total consumer expenditures for goods and services did not keep pace with increases in disposable income and net personal savings rose to the highest rate since the end of World War II. However, the proportion of consumers' disposable income spent for food was almost equal to that in 1950.

Table 3.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1946, 1949, 1950, 1951, and forecaste for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

(Primary distribution weight)

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1946	1949	1950	1951 Prel.	Forecasts: for 1952	1952 as a percentage of: 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of: 1951
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent
Meats (carcass weight) - Total	126.2	153.4	143.9	143.7	138	141	112	102
Beef	55.2	61.3	63.5	63.0	56	60	109	107
Veal	8.1	9.9	8.7	7.9	7	8	99	114
Lamb and mutton	6.8	6.6	4.1	4.0	3.4	3.7	54	109
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	75.6	67.6	68.8	72	69	123	96
Fish (edible weight) - Total	11.1	11.0	11.4	11.5	11.4	2/	-	-
Fresh and frozen	5.3	6.2	6.4	6.3	2/	2/	-	-
Canned 3/	4.8	3.8	4.1	4.3	2/	2/	-	-
Cured	1.0	1.0	.9	.9	2/	2/	-	-
Poultry products								
Eggs - number	298	374	381	395	406	409	137	101
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	25.4	25.5	27.0	29.1	31.2	174	107
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	4.5	4.2	5.0	5.6	6.0	231	107
Dairy products								
Total milk (whole milk equivalent)	801	813	761	776	759	743	93	98
Cheese	5.5	6.7	7.2	7.7	7.2	7.4	135	103
Condensed and evaporated milk	16.7	18.5	19.6	20.0	18.1	18.6	111	103
Fluid milk and cream	340	423	384	385	395	400	118	101
Fats and oils - Total, fat content 4/	44.7	39.7	42.3	45.4	43.1	43.9	98	102
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	10.5	10.5	10.7	9.7	9.0	54	93
Lard	11.0	11.8	11.8	12.2	12.7	12.9	117	102
Margarine (actual weight)	2.9	3.8	5.7	6.1	6.6)			
Shortening	11.7	10.1	9.6	11.0	9.1)	25.1	120	105
Other edible fats and oils	6.3	6.2	7.8	8.6	8.1)			
Fruits								
Fresh - total	138.5	138.3	125.0	108.6	119.1	112	81	94
Citrus	48.9	58.7	47.4	40.9	44.7	43	88	96
Apples (commercial)	30.4	23.2	24.8	22.8	25.4)	69	77	93
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	56.4	52.8	44.9	49.0)			
Processed								
Canned fruit	14.9	21.8	18.2	20.9	19.8	2/	-	-
Canned juices	3.9	17.7	15.4	13.7	14.7	2/	-	-
Frozer (including juices)	.8	3.1	3.5	4.3	5.0	2/	-	-
Dried	5.8	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.6	2/	-	-
Vegetables								
Fresh	235	272	249	253	252	251	107	100
Canned	29.9	46.5	38.3	41.8	41.8	2/	-	-
Frozen	5/ .4	2.0	3.0	3.3	3.7	2/	-	-
Potatoes	131	127	108	105	104	2/	-	-
Sweetpotatoes	21.4	18.2	14.3	12.8	7.2	2/	-	-
Dry edible beans	8.8	8.7	7.0	8.6	8.6	2/	-	-
Dry field peas	.6	.8	.4	.7	.7	2/	-	-
Sugar, refined	97.0	74.4	94.9	95.5	96.3	6/91-96	96	97
Grains								
Corn products:								
Corn meal	22.9	15.9	13.5	13.5	13.2	13	57	98
Corn sirup	7.6	11.8	8.5	9.1	9.0	9.0	118	100
Corn starch	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	146	100
Corn sugar	2.7	3.8	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.3	159	105
Breakfast cereals	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	94	100
Hominy	1.4	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.5	179	100
Oatmeal	3.9	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	77	100
Barley food products 7/	1.4	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	114	100
Wheat:								
Flour 8/	159	156	135	133	133	133	84	100
Breakfast cereals	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	89	100
Rye flour	2.2	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	73	100
Rice, milled	5.6	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.8	5.8	104	100
Beverages								
Coffee 9/	14.0	19.9	18.6	16.1	16.4	2/	-	-
Tea	.67	.57	.59	.65	.67	2/	-	-
Cocoa beans	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.1	2/	-	-
Peanuts (shelled)	4.3	4.9	4.2	4.3	4.4	2/	-	-

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel not eating out of civilian supplies.

1/ Quantity in pounds except for eggs which are stated in number. Data on calendar year basis except for dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; fresh citrus furits, dry field peas and peanuts on a crop year basis; rice on August 1 year; and canned fruit and vegetables on pack year basis in 1935-39. All years begin in year indicated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year. 2/ Not available. 3/ Excludes canned food products containing small quantities of fish such as clam chowder, etc. 4/ Computed from unrounded data. 5/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 6/ Based on the U. S. domestic requirements of 7,700 thousand tons (raw value) as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. 7/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent. 8/ Includes white, whole wheat, and semolina flour. 9/ Green bean basis.

Prospects for 1952

Consumer demand for food will continue strong in 1952. Retail food prices may increase somewhat further, particularly if production and marketing costs should rise any more. However, as long as prospective supplies of food are large and the price control program and other measures to deter inflation are in effect, a substantial increase in the general level of food prices is unlikely.

The prospective high level of economic activity, maintained by the increasing output of goods for the national defense, is expected to provide record employment and incomes to civilians. These will in turn keep the domestic demand for consumer goods and services high. The greater diversion of basic commodities to the production of materiel for the national defense will tend to retard output of consumer durable goods in 1952.

Military purchases of food will approximate those of 1951 since "pipelines" are filled for many commodities. Exports of food are likely to decline if the international situation does not deteriorate further. The price impact of these demands plus domestic consumer demand may be counteracted by a record output of food this year, if weather conditions over the country are reasonably favorable and producers attain the goals recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

NUTRITIONAL REVIEW 1/

Supplies of major nutrients available for civilian consumption in 1952 probably will be as large as or slightly larger than in 1951. The anticipated increases in the apparent civilian per capita consumption of beef, poultry, fluid milk, ice cream, eggs and sweetpotatoes will be reflected in a slight rise in available supplies of most of the major nutrients. Accordingly, the current high nutritional quality of American diets, as shown by estimates of per capita consumption, will be maintained.

The indicated increase in the supply of vitamin A next year reflects an anticipated recovery in sweetpotato consumption from the record low of 1951.

The further advance in prospect for fluid milk consumption will result in a small rise in the calcium content of civilian diets. This is significant in view of the downward trend in the supply of this nutrient between 1946 and 1949.

The nutrients affected by the over-all increase likely in meat consumption are protein, iron, and niacin. However, because of the decrease in pork output and in probable civilian consumption per person, thiamine supplies may be reduced slightly.

The expected small rise in per capita egg consumption also will contribute to the increase in the amount of iron available for consumption.

1/ Prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

Table 4.- Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1946, 1949, 1950, 1951 and forecasts for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

Nutrients	Units	Average 1935-39	1946	1949	1950	1951 Prel.	Forecast for 1952	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Food energy	Cal.	3,280	3,390	3,230	3,280	3,290	3,290	100	100
Protein	Grams	89	104	94	95	96	97	109	101
Fat	Grams	132	147	141	145	146	147	111	101
Carbohydrate	Grams	431	417	401	404	406	401	93	99
Calcium	Grams	.94	1.15	1.05	1.06	1.08	1.09	116	101
Iron	Mg.	13.6	18.6	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.8	124	102
Vitamin A value	I.U.	8,100	9,500	8,600	8,700	8,100	8,400	104	104
Thiamine	Mg.	1.43	2.18	1.90	1.92	1.96	1.95	136	99
Riboflavin	Mg.	1.86	2.58	2.34	2.34	2.39	2.42	130	101
Niacin	Mg.	15.2	21.3	19.0	19.0	19.3	19.5	128	101
Ascorbic acid	Mg.	115	137	121	120	121	121	105	100

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption from urban gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss of waste in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food. Deductions have been made for inedible refuse. The data for 1946-52 for iron, thiamine riboflavin, and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to prepared cereals, bread and white flour.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meat

Review of 1951

Total meat production in 1951 was slightly below the 22.1 billion pounds of 1950 as an increase in pork failed to offset entirely the decline in the production of other meats. This small decrease in production and an expansion in meat procurement by military agencies left somewhat smaller supplies for civilians. Civilian per capita consumption of meat in 1951 apparently declined about 6 pounds to the lowest rate since 1942. Retail prices for red meats in 1951 averaged 13 percent higher than a year earlier, according to reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Pork supplies were rather large in 1951 and as a result civilian consumption increased to about 72 pounds per person compared with 69 pounds of the previous year. Pork output in 1951 totaled about 11.6 billion pounds, 8 percent above a year earlier. Output in each month was higher than in the corresponding month of 1950. The increase resulted chiefly from the large pig crops in the fall of 1950 and the spring of 1951.

Beef consumption was approximately 56 pounds per person in 1951, 11 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 1944. This decline resulted from smaller production. Beef output in 1951, amounting to about 8.9 billion pounds, was the lowest since 1943 and less than had been anticipated. Cattle slaughter declined to its lowest level in 10 years as producers withheld large numbers to build up herds. The most important causes of the reduced marketings were the favorable cattle price prospects and good feed supply conditions in most areas of the country; the imposition of price controls was also a factor.

Per capita consumption of veal by civilians declined to about 7 pounds, considerably below 1950 and the lowest since the early 1930's. Marketing of calves for slaughter, influenced by factors similar to those which affected cattle marketings, was smaller than in 1950. As a result, veal production in 1951 was about 14 percent less than a year earlier and the smallest since 1941.

Lamb and mutton consumption by civilians in 1951 dropped to the lowest rate in 52 years of record, a little over 3 pounds per person. Production of this meat was the lowest since 1900 as farmers continued to withhold large numbers of sheep and lambs in order to build up herds which had previously been depleted.

Meat imports in 1951 exceeded the record established in 1918, and provided over 3 pounds per person. Most of the increase over 1950 was in beef, principally fresh beef from Canada and cured processing beef from Mexico. Exports of beef, on the other hand, were less than a fourth as large as imports.

Military procurement of meat from domestic supplies in 1951, which utilized more than 5 percent of total supplies, was substantially larger than a year earlier.

Retail meat prices in general were relatively stable in 1951 following the price freeze on January 26. However, because of the sharp advance in late 1950 and January 1951, the average for 1951 was much higher than a year earlier. Small advances in meat prices during the spring and summer were permitted under adjustments to OPS ceiling prices. In the fall months, seasonally larger supplies brought price declines for some items, particularly pork.

Prospects for 1952

Current indications point to a little larger meat supplies in 1952 than a year earlier. Production promises to be greater than in any year since 1957 but smaller than from 1943 and 1947. Civilians may have 2 or 3 pounds more meat per person in 1952 than the 138 pounds consumed last year but this would be the second lowest since 1942. Most of the increase in 1952 probably will occur during the first half of the year. The average retail price of meat this year is not expected to be much different from that of 1951.

The composition of the meat supply will be somewhat different than a year earlier, with a prospective increase in the supply of beef, veal and lamb more than offsetting a decline in pork. With a smaller spring pig crop in prospect, civilian consumption of pork in 1952 may decline to perhaps 69 pounds per person. In late 1952 there may be considerably less pork than a year earlier, but substantially more beef.

Cattle slaughter this year may rise enough to provide as much as 3 or 4 pounds more beef per person than the 56 pounds consumed in 1951. The increased production in prospect will result from the record number of cattle on farms and a probable increase in the proportion sold for slaughter.

The factors which are expected to encourage expansion in cattle slaughter this year are also likely to affect the production of veal, lamb and mutton. Prospects are that most of the increase in supplies of these meats will come in the latter part of the year, although some increase in lamb and mutton may come earlier since there were 15 percent more sheep and lambs on feed this January 1 than a year earlier.

Procurement of meat by military agencies in 1952 will again be substantial, but probably not significantly larger than last year. With meat supplies, especially beef, likely to be greater than last year, military needs may be met a little more easily than in 1951.

Retail meat prices in 1952 are not expected to differ much on the average from last year. The present price-control authority will remain in effect until the end of June. Currently, prices are generally below the peak reached in 1951. However, some seasonaly increase in prices of pork and, perhaps, the lower grades of beef are expected during the period of seasonally low supplies this spring and summer. During the last few months of the year, pork prices may be somewhat higher than in the same part of 1951, but beef prices may average slightly lower.

Fishery Products 1/

Review of 1951

U. S. civilian per capita consumption of fishery products in 1951 continued at practically the same rate, almost 11.5 pounds (edible weight), as in the preceding 3 years. The commercial catch of edible fish and shellfish was more than 10 percent smaller than in 1950, with the decline occurring principally in the fish used in canning, but consumption was maintained by drawing on the stocks of major canned items carried over from the very large 1950 packs.

The commercial catch of edible fishery products for sale in the fresh and frozen form was somewhat larger than in 1950. Commercial freezing of edible fish and shellfish in the continental United States totaled 282 million pounds, more than 15 percent greater than in the preceding year. Cold-storage stocks of edible frozen fishery commodities at the end of 1951 amounted to 155 million pounds, 6 percent above a year earlier and the largest on record for that date. Retail prices of fresh and frozen fishery commodities in 1951 averaged 7 percent above a year earlier, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Production of canned fishery products in 1951 was about one-fifth smaller than in the preceding year. The pack of canned salmon was up 7 percent, mainly as a result of the increased output of pink salmon. On the other hand, the pack of tuna was more than 5 percent below the record 1950 output, and the packs of canned California and Maine sardines were down more than 45 percent and 60 percent, respectively. The lower output of canned tuna resulted in large part from packers' response to market demand. Although still good, the demand apparently was not sufficiently so to take relatively large domestic and imported supplies without some decline in prices from the level which prevailed during the latter part of 1950. The small packs of both California and Maine sardines resulted entirely from the poor catches.

1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior.

Military takings of fishery products were much larger than in 1950, with most of the increase in fresh and frozen commodities. Procurement of fresh and frozen products in 1951, although still a relatively small part of the total supply, was about 70 percent larger than a year earlier; canned fish procurement was about 15 percent greater. Purchases of fresh and frozen fishery products during the third and early part of the fourth quarter of the year were especially large because the military agencies found it difficult to carry out their purchase program for meat and, as a result, bought additional quantities of fishery products as an alternative protein food.

Imports of frozen groundfish (cod, haddock, hake, pollock, and cusk) and ocean perch fillets, one of the most important import items among the fishery products, totaled 82.3 million pounds between January and November 1951, about 30 percent greater than a year earlier. Exports of canned fishery products from the United States were much larger than in the comparable 11 months of 1950.

Prospects for 1952

Little change in the level of consumption of all fishery products is expected for 1952. Cold-storage stocks of edible fish and shellfish at the beginning of the year were record large in size for that date, and probably will be adequate for anticipated domestic needs until spring, when commercial production expands seasonally. On the other hand, as a result of the reduced 1951 pack, canned fish supplies are expected to run lower than a year earlier at least until the 1952 packs start moving to market in volume after midyear. Retail prices of fishery products probably will not change much from the 1951 level, particularly if meat supplies are no larger than are currently anticipated.

The foreign trade of the United States in fishery products is likely to follow the pattern of the past few years. Imports, especially of the frozen fish fillets, are expected to continue large. Exports, on the other hand, may be somewhat smaller than in 1951.

Poultry and Eggs

Review of 1951

Production of eggs and poultry meat set a new record in 1951. The civilian demand for eggs and turkey meat was very strong, and consumption per person reached record high rates. Chicken meat consumption was high, but not a record. Retail prices of poultry products averaged higher in 1951 than a year earlier, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with egg prices showing the greatest increase.

U. S. civilians consumed about 3 percent more eggs than a year earlier, a new record. Domestic demand for eggs was strong throughout the year. Military procurement was also a factor in the strong domestic demand situation. The 1951 purchases were much larger than a year earlier, although accounting for no more than 3 percent of total supplies.

In the spring of 1951 when production was at its seasonal peak, the demand for eggs for current consumption was so strong that the market was able to absorb the large supply without difficulty. The volume of eggs moving into storage during the spring was small and total cold-storage holdings

on July 1, the time of the year when stocks are usually at a peak, were the second lowest for that date since 1920. The Department of Agriculture did not have a price-support program in 1951. In 1950 the equivalent of 244 million dozen eggs were diverted from the market under the price-support program.

Civilian consumption of chickens in 1951 was 29.1 pounds per capita, 8 percent more than a year earlier. Production of chicken in 1951 was record large. Most of the increase came from a sharp expansion in the production of commercial broilers; marketings of chickens from farm flocks were about as large as in 1950. In the past several years commercial broilers have become an increasingly important source of chicken meat supplies in this country.

Military procurement of chickens in 1951 was more than twice as large as a year earlier and accounted for almost 3 percent of total chicken meat supplies. The procurement program was especially large during the late summer and early fall months of the year when, because of their inability to carry out their purchases program for beef, the military agencies bought larger quantities of chicken meat - in addition to fishery products and turkey meat - to supply protein food requirements for the Armed Forces stationed in the United States.

Turkey consumption per capita by U. S. civilians set a record of 5.6 pounds in 1951. Although most of the turkeys were consumed during and after the Thanksgiving holiday, a larger proportion than in the past was eaten earlier in the year. The increasing year-around availability and the increasing consumer acceptance of the smaller-breed, light-weight turkeys - - which are more suitable for the average-size family than the large birds-are tending to reduce the concentration of consumption at the holiday season late in the year.

Prospects for 1952

Current indications point to even larger supplies and consumption of eggs and poultry meat than last year. Retail prices of poultry products for the year as a whole may average nearly as high as in 1951.

The expectation of larger production of eggs this year than last is based on the 2 percent greater number of potential layers on farms this January 1 than a year earlier and the likelihood that the rate of lay per bird will continue at record levels.

Retail prices of eggs during the first half of 1952 may average lower than a year earlier, but in the last six months may exceed the corresponding 1951 average. This prospect of a wider price change between the spring and fall months of 1952 than occurred a year earlier may encourage distributors to store a larger quantity of shell eggs this year than the near - record small volume stored in 1951. The eggs placed in cold-storage this spring will be available to supplement output during the seasonal low-production period in the late summer and fall months.

Production of poultry meat in 1952 is expected to exceed last year's total. However, because of the prospect that throughout a large part of this year feed costs will be high relative to prices farmers will receive for their poultry products, the increase in the production of commercial broilers may not be as large as occurred in 1951. Commercial broiler production can be adjusted upward in a relatively short period of time if the market situation is favorable. The rise in turkey production is likely to include many birds of the smaller types.

Dairy Products

Review of 1951

The per capita consumption of dairy products was only slightly smaller, in over-all terms, last year than in 1950 despite the drop of about a billion pounds in milk production. Substantial stocks of some items on hand at the beginning of the year supplemented current output. The rate of fluid milk and cream consumption increased a little, but consumption of butter fell off one pound per person, that of evaporated milk 2 pounds, and cheese about one-half pound. Total milk equivalent of the dairy products consumed, calculated on the basis of fat content, averaged about 2 percent less than in 1950, but there was apparently a further increase in the utilization of the non-fat portion of milk.

The stronger demand for dairy products in the early part of 1951 was met partly out of stocks, which were the second largest since World War II. These included butter and cheese purchased under the Department's price-support program which later were sold back to commercial firms. Retail prices rose considerably around the beginning of the year, then were relatively stable for some months. With seasonally large production of manufactured dairy products, prices of dairy products were close to the equivalent of support prices through the summer. Very little butter and cheese was purchased for price support during the year and the quantity of nonfat dry milk solids purchased was only about one-seventh as large as in each of the preceding 2 years. In September 1951 prices for manufactured dairy products started to move upward, but the rise was slow at first. The biggest price rise occurred for butter, which had advanced to the highest levels since 1948 and showed more than seasonal increase from the year's low reached in September. Stocks of cheese, evaporated milk and dry whole milk were larger at the year end than at the beginning.

Relatively small quantities of dairy products are imported and exported each year. Since the close of World War II, imports of foreign types of cheese have been increasing as production abroad expanded and our demand for such cheeses grew. United States exports of dairy products, on the other hand, have been declining since the emergency needs following World War II have tapered off, but remain considerably larger than imports. In the first half of 1951 imports of cheese were at the highest level since 1937. Since August 1951, however, cheese imports have been subject to quotas established by the Secretary of Agriculture, as he is required to do under the provisions of an amendment to the Defense Production Act. These quotas were designed to limit imports of each type of cheese to the average of imports during 1948, 1949 and 1950. Imports of butter and nonfat dry milk solids are prohibited at present.

Prospects for 1952

Domestic supplies of dairy products per capita are likely to be smaller in 1952 than last year. With consumer demand rising, consumption of milk in fluid form will continue at least as great as in 1951, even though milk prices probably will be higher. Ice cream consumption is likely to expand in 1952 as compared with 1951. Consumption of the other dairy products, except butter, is likely to be essentially the same as in 1951. With no increase in milk production, the supply of milk for making butter is likely to be reduced further during 1952. Consumption of butter per person may be no more than 9 pounds and the lowest on record.

Milk production is not expected to be much different in total from that of 1951. Although supplies of feed concentrates are smaller than a year earlier and their prices are higher, dairy product-feed price relationships are likely to be about the same in 1952 as in the latter part of 1951. Barring widespread droughts and poor pastures, the rate of milk production per cow in 1952 is likely to be approximately the same as the near-record of 1951.

While stocks of evaporated milk, cheese, and dry whole milk were relatively large at the beginning of the year, those of butter were smaller than in other recent years. Stocks of dairy products as a whole, on a milk equivalent basis, were considerably smaller at the beginning of 1952 than a year earlier. Imports probably will be smaller than in 1951 because of restrictions now in effect. Exports may be little different from 1951.

With demand stronger in 1952 than in 1951 and supplies probably a little smaller, there are likely to be upward price pressures during the comming 12 months. However, there will be some seasonal price declines this spring, with the approach of the flush season of production for milk and manufactured dairy products, but the declines may be less than usual. Butter prices already have declined slightly. So far, wholesale milk and butter fat prices have not reached the level which would permit the establishment of fixed price ceilings as authorized in the Defense Production Act.

Fats and Oils

Review of 1951

Supplies of edible fats and oils in 1951 were at record high levels. However, the movement of these products into civilian distribution channels was a bit smaller than a year earlier, when inventories in unreported positions were apparently built up.

Civilian disappearance of food fats and oils totaled 43 pounds (fat content) per person, about 2.5 pounds below the 1950 rate, but somewhat higher than in the other postwar years. Disappearance of shortening in 1951 was nearly 2 pounds per person less than a year earlier, butter was down 1 pound and the "other edible oils" were down by about ½ pound, but both lard and margarine increased approximately ½ pound. Despite this reduction in the marketings by major distributors in 1951, however, civilians probably consumed about as much edible fats and oils per person as year earlier by drawing upon inventories of wholesalers and retailers whose stocks are not reported.

Although retail prices of fats and oils (other than butter) in 1951 averaged 17 percent above a year earlier, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, by the end of the year they had declined to the level of the year earlier. Most of the increase over the 1950 average was due to the sharp price rise resulting from the wave of "scare buying" following the outbreak of fighting in Korea, as the BLS index of retail prices of these food products declined each month after April 1951. Throughout the year retail prices of butter remained substantially above a year earlier, reflecting in part strong consumer demand and also smaller supplies resulting from the diversion of milk to those dairy products which yield a higher return to farmers.

Exports of food fats and oils, including the oil equivalent of oilseeds, from this country in 1951 were record in size, about 25 percent above the previous year's total of 1,050 million pounds. A large part of this increase is accounted for by heavy shipments of lard to the United Kingdom and to Yugoslavia, the latter was in a deficit food position throughout most of the year because of a severe drought in 1950. Also, large quantities of soybean oil were shipped to Spain in exchange for olive oil. Price relationships in 1951 were such that Spain found it advantageous to ship olive oil, from her small 1950 olive crop, to the United States and in return purchase soybean oil for domestic use.

The shipment of lard to foreign destinations was about 30 percent above the 1950 level, and that of the edible vegetable oils was up about 20 percent. In addition, the combined exports of soybeans and peanuts for crushing abroad were about one-third larger than the 209 million pounds (oil equivalent basis) which moved to foreign areas in 1950.

Production of food fats and oils in 1951 was about 5 percent above a year earlier, setting a new record. A large increase in vegetable oils and lard more than offset a sharp drop in butter. The large crops of oilseeds in both 1950 and 1951 plus the increase in the number of hogs slaughtered in these years maintained production of food fats and oils at a high level. Production of margarine was up 11 percent, while shortening output declined 18 percent.

Reported stocks of food fats and oils at the end of 1951 totaled 1,036 million pounds, 25 percent above the low stocks of a year earlier and the largest for that date since 1946. The inventory increase in 1951 can be accounted for by the fact that marketings by producers and major wholesalers did not keep pace with production of these edible food products during the year. Judging from the decline in primary distribution, inventories held by wholesalers and retailers whose stocks are not reported probably declined rather sharply in 1951.

Prospects for 1952

Total supplies of food fats and oils this year are expected to be sufficiently large to maintain civilian consumption and both military and export takings at a high rate. Civilian disappearance per capita for these products in 1952 probably will be larger than a year earlier, with increases in shortening, margarine, and perhaps lard and "other edible oils" more than offsetting the prospective decline in butter. Retail prices of edible fats and oils, except for butter, are expected to average lower than in 1951. Current prices for most of these products are substantially below their OPS ceilings.

Production of edible fats and oils (including the oil equivalent of exports of peanuts and soybeans) in the marketing year October 1951-September 1952 probably will total about 9.2 billion pounds, 0.3 billion pounds greater than the record volume reached a year earlier. Increases in the output of cottonseed oil and lard are likely to more than compensate for the anticipated decline in butter and soybean oil.

The prospective increase in lard output through September 1952 will result from the large number of hogs slaughtered during the current marketing year The 1951 pig crops totaled 102 million animals, the largest since 1943. However, in the October-December quarter lard output is likely to be smaller than a year earlier. The 1952 spring pig crop, which will start to market early next fall, may be about 9 percent below the comparable crop of 1951.

Exports of edible fats and oils (including the oil equivalent of oilseeds) probably will be large again even though they may not reach the record 1951 total.

Fruits

Review of 1951

Supplies of fruit were fairly large in 1951 as a result of the heavy stocks at the beginning of the year and the sizable crops during the summer and fall months. Thus, civilian per capita consumption was maintained at a high rate and retail prices, according to reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and from prices received by farmers for fruits, averaged somewhat higher than in 1950.

Apparent civilian consumption of fresh and processed fruits totaled about 205 pounds (fresh equivalent basis) per person, slightly more than in 1950. Most of the increase was in the fresh fruits and in the canned and frozen fruit juices. Civilians also took about 1.7 pounds (shelled basis) of tree nuts per person, somewhat higher than the preceding year's rate.

The fruit crop in 1951 amounted to about 17.3 million tons. The harvest of deciduous fruits, a total of 10 million tons, was 10 percent above that of a year earlier. Compared with 1950, the increase in the output of grapes, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, figs, and strawberries offset by a wide margin declines in apples, apricots, cherries, and cranberries. The 1951 grape crop was a record at 3.3 million tons.

Supplies of citrus fruit, especially oranges, were large during the year. The 1950-51 citrus crop, most of which moved to market in 1951, was 16 percent greater than the preceding crop. Frost damage to trees in Texas early in 1951 sharply reduced the volume of citrus fruit coming from that area but did not cut back total supplies materially.

U. S. civilians consumed about 119 pounds of fresh fruit per person in 1951, about 10 pounds more than a year earlier. The increase occurred both in the citrus and deciduous fruits. Consumption of bananas, one of the popular fruits in this country, was less than in 1950 because of a decline in imports due to labor problems in producing areas. Exports of fresh apples and pears were encouraged by a subsidy program in 1951 in order to maintain orderly market conditions in this country. In addition to quantities moved earlier in the year, about 2.6 million bushels of apples and 614,000 bushels of winter pears from the 1951 crops were exported later in the year under this program.

Total consumption of canned fruits by civilians amounted to 19 or 20 pounds per capita, down about 5 percent from the 1950 rate. Supplies in 1951 were 7 percent larger than in the preceding year because of a substantially larger output. Most of the production increase was accounted for by large packs of peaches and fruit cocktail. Stocks at the beginning of 1951 were smaller than a year earlier, and imports -- principally canned pineapple from Hawaii -- were about the same as in 1950. A sharp increase in the military procurement program apparently contributed to the reduction in civilian per capita consumption of canned fruits, despite the larger total domestic supplies. The military program took about 8 percent of the quantity available for distribution in 1951.

Per capita consumption of canned fruit juices by civilians in 1951 was nearly 15 pounds, about a pound more than a year earlier. The pack of canned juices totaled around 2.4 billion pounds, 17 percent above 1950, with the bulk of the increase in canned citrus juices. Military procurement, which amounted to almost 6 percent of total supplies, was considerably larger than in 1950. Even with increases in purchases by military agencies and in consumption by civilians, stocks of canned fruit juices at the end of 1951 were larger than a year earlier.

Frozen fruit and fruit juice consumption by civilians reached a new record of around 5 pounds per person, 0.7 pounds higher than the 1950 rate. The increase was largely in frozen citrus juices. Total production of frozen fruit products in 1951 set another record. The output of frozen fruits was down 5 percent from a year earlier mainly because of a reduction in the quantity of frozen strawberries produced. However, this decline was more than offset by a fourth larger pack of frozen citrus juices, principally concentrated orange juice. Cold-storage stocks of frozen fruits and fruit juices on December 31, 1951 totaled 509 million pounds, 13 percent greater than the carry-over at the end of 1950.

Production of dried fruit in 1951 was one-fourth larger than that in the preceding year, with the bulk of the increase in raisins and dried prunes. Civilian consumption of dried fruit, estimated at 4.6 pounds per person, was slightly above 1950. Supplies at the end of 1951 were much larger than a year earlier, when output was smaller.

Prospects for 1952

Supplies of fruit appear adequate to meet anticipated domestic and export requirements until the new crops are marketed after midyear. Among the fresh fruits, more oranges will be available than in the first half of last year and supplies of grapefruit will be about the same, but supplies of apples and pears will be smaller. For the processed fruits, supplies of canned and dried fruits, and canned and frozen fruit juices are expected to continue larger than in January-June 1951, while those of the frozen fruits and berries probably will be about as large. The retail price of fruits, fresh and processed combined, probably will average about the same during the next few months as a year earlier.

Cold-storage stocks of fresh apples on December 31, 1951--for marketing during this winter and spring--were almost a third smaller than the record stocks at the close of 1950. The smaller carry-over at the end of 1951 is the result of a smaller crop of the winter varieties of apples last year and the heavy marketings last fall, the early part of the marketing season. Stocks of pears, mostly the winter varieties, in cold storage on December 31, 1951 were about 16 percent smaller than a year earlier. Despite the smaller stocks carried over into 1952, supplies of apples and pears this winter and spring are expected to continue adequate to meet domestic needs. Retail prices of each of these 2 fruits during the first half of the year are likely to average somewhat higher than for the same months of 1951.

Supplies of fresh strawberries this winter, produced in Florida, are expected to be approximately as large as in the same season of 1951. Prospective acreage for harvest in the spring, the main season for strawberry production, is about 6 percent smaller than the comparable acreage last year. Unless the yield per acre is even higher than the above-average yield of last spring, supplies of strawberries during the spring months will be smaller than in the same months of 1951. Stocks of frozen strawberries are about the same as a year ago.

A somewhat larger quantity of fresh citrus fruit will be available during the next few months than a year earlier despite the smaller 1951-52 grapefruit crop. The Texas citrus crops were near failures because of the frost damage to trees in early 1951, but record crops of oranges and grapefruit are currently being harvested in Florida.

Total supplies of processed citrus juices this winter and spring are expected to be somewhat larger than a year earlier. Stocks of frozen concentrated orange juice on December 31, 1951 were nearly twice as large as a year earlier and the 1952 pack, now well under way in Florida, promises to be large. The production of "hot-pack" canned citrus and citrus juices in Florida was slow in starting this year. However, the production rate will increase rapidly as harvesting progresses. Packers' stocks of canned citrus juices at the end of 1951 were slightly larger than a year earlier, while those of canned grapefruit sections and citrus salad were about the same.

Stocks of 9 major items of canned fruits held by packers and wholesale distributors on January 1, 1952 -- which will be marketed this winter and spring -- were roughly 16 percent larger than a year earlier. Holdings of peaches, fruit cocktail and salad, plums and prunes, pears and apricots were much larger than on the same date in 1950, but those of sweet cherries and pineapple were moderately smaller.

Supplies of dried fruit in the first nine months of 1952 will be much greater than a year earlier. This results from a 25 percent greater output than in the 1950-51 marketing season. To help move some of the indicated surplus from the domestic market and thereby maintain orderly distribution, the Department of Agriculture has inaugurated an export-payment program for raisins and prunes. Under this program about 21,000 tons of dried prunes and 56,000 tons of raisins had been approved for export by January 18, 1952.

Vegetables

Review of 1951

Vegetable consumption in 1951 differed little from that of the preceding year. Fewer sweetpotatoes were available, but frozen vegetables were more plentiful. Despite the bad weather which reduced fresh vegetable supplies in the early months of 1951, marketings of fresh vegetables for the year as a whole were about as large as those in 1950. Contrary to 1950, practically all the vegetables that were produced were marketed. With only relatively small takings of fresh vegetables for use of the armed forces, civilian consumption continued at about the same rate as in 1950. Only relatively minor quantities of fresh vegetables enter into our foreign trade. Retail prices for fresh vegetables averaged much higher in 1951 than in 1950, reflecting strong consumer demand.

Civilian consumption of canned vegetables continued at about the same rate as in 1950, between 41 and 42 pounds per person. The 1951 output of vegetables for processing was substantially larger than in the preceding year, but the increases in the packs of canned vegetables were used principally to meet stepped up military needs and to rebuild stocks in distribution channels. Supplies from the new packs of canned vegetables have been selling at substantially higher prices than a year earlier. Packs of frozen vegetables are also indicated to have been larger in 1951, but most of the increased supplies were available for civilian use. End-of-year stocks were up considerably, but consumption of frozen vegetables per capita apparently continued its upward trend.

Potato consumption in 1951 averaged about the same as in 1950, but the supply situation varied widely during the year. Very large stocks were carried over from the 1950 crop. Without a price-support program on the 1951 crop and with much lower prices prevailing in late 1950, farmers greatly reduced their potato acreage in 1951 and the potato crop was the smallest in more than a decade. Most of the reduction in supplies is being reflected early in 1952. The short crop brought substantially higher prices at retail by fall. The sweetpotato crop was the smallest since 1881 and per capita consumption was cut back to only 7 pounds, a record low. Since mid-year, sweetpotato prices have reached new highs for each month.

Consumption of dry edible beans was relatively high in 1951 despite increased prices. Very large stocks were carried over from the 1950 crop, but they were materialy reduced during the year. Military takings of dry beans were larger than in 1950, but were still only a small part of total disappearance. Production of dry field peas was up about 17 percent this year and provided supplies sufficient to meet all needs.

Prospects for 1952

In 1952, probabilities are that the rates of production and consumption of fresh vegetables will be maintained at least as high as in 1951. Prospective production of 18 truck crops for winter-season harvest (January-March), is about 5 percent less than that of last winter and only 4 percent above the recent 10-year average. However, most of the tonnage reduction is accounted for by cabbage and carrots. Substantial increases in tonnage compared with last winter are indicated for spinach, tomatoes, green peppers, artichokes, cucumbers and eggplant. Prices for fresh vegetables are expected to decline considerably as supplies become seasonally more abundant this spring.

Current supplies of processed vegetables are relatively large and appear to be generally adequate to meet anticipated demands at about the present price levels. Military requirements from the 1952 packs of canned vegetables are smaller now that the "pipelines" have been filled. Domestic civilian demand is expected to continue strong again this year. The prospect for moderate military purchases and the current supply situation have been reflected in somewhat lower goals being suggested by the Department of Agriculture for several crops for processing. These include lima beans, snap beans, green peas, spinach, and tomatoes. Moderate increases are suggested for beets, cabbage for kraut, and sweet corn. If production and packs meet these suggested goals, some easing of retail prices might occur with the marketing of the new packs.

The pack of frozen vegetables apparently reached another new high last year, although complete data are not yet available. Substantially larger stocks were in cold storage on January 1, 1952 than in preceding years and will permit a continuation of the upward trend in consumption per capita.

The Department has suggested only moderate increases in potato planting in 1952. However, if 1951 prices encourage a large expansion in output a surplus situation may result with reduced prices to both farmers and consumers. Relatively little change in per capita consumption is likely. The schedule of ceiling prices, first imposed on January 19, 1952 is required to reflect prices to producers no lower than the parity price as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Sweetpotato supplies are quite small for this time of year and prices are relatively high. Production may increase somewhat in 1952 but probably will continue below average. Some of the same factors which have contributed to the drastic reductions in output in recent years will again be operative -- such as the tight labor situation, alternative opportunities in other crops, and the problem of weevil infestation; but two factors, relatively unfavorable prices in 1950 and poor weather for planting, may not.

Military and export requirements for both potatoes and sweetpotatoes will continue to be relatively small, according to present indications.

Stocks of dry beans continue very large but probably will be considerably reduced by the end of the 1951-crop marketing season. Supplies are fully adequate to meet current strong market demand at about present prices. Non-civilian requirements apparently will not be particularly significant.

Supplies of dry peas appear to be adequate to meet anticipated moderate demands at about present prices.

Food Grains

Review of 1951

The reduced output of most food grains and increased domestic and foreign needs caused some upward pressure on prices of cereal food products in 1951. The total domestic demand for foods made from grains was a little stronger than in 1950, and the apparent consumption of cereal food products was slightly larger.

The wheat harvest in 1951 totaled 987 million bushels, 3 percent below that of a year earlier and the smallest since 1943. Production was adversely affected by unfavorable weather in several growing areas. However, with stocks on January 1, 1951 of 1,002 million bushels-the highest in 8 years -- sufficient wheat was available to meet all requirements. Quantities of low grade wheat were imported from Canada in 1951 for livestock feed.

Civilian takings of wheat are estimated at 481 million bushels, 2 million more than in 1950. Civilians apparently consumed about the same amount of wheat per capita in the form of food products as in the preceding years. The retail prices of flour and bread in large cities average 6 and 10 percent, respectively, higher than in 1950, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Wheat exports in 1951, including military relief exports and shipments to United States territories, were about a fourth larger than in the preceding year. The increase resulted from the foreign demand transferred from other surplus wheat producing countries, most of whom had poor harvests in 1950, and from heavy shipments to India and Yugoslavia, where severe droughts damaged crops. The export demand for wheat contributed materially to the strength in the prices of this commodity in 1951.

Civilian consumption of rye was apparently a little above the 1950 rate and the highest since 1946. The rye crop in 1951 was 21.4 million bushels, slightly more than a year earlier, but was offset by sharply reduced imports. Distribution of rye in 1951 was greater than a year earlier, cutting back stocks on January 1, 1952 about 15 percent from those at the beginning of the year.

Rice consumption per capita by U S. civilians during the 1950-51 marketing year was 5.8 pounds (milled basis), the highest rate in 10 years. Also reflecting the increased demand was the fact that BLS retail prices of rice advanced early in the marketing year and for the period as a whole averaged 17.8 cents per pound, more than 5 percent above that for 1949-50. The rice crop which was marketed in 1950-51 totaled 2,522 million pounds (milled basis). With stocks at the beginning of that year the largest for that date since 1942, supplies available for distribution were second only to those in the preceding year when the crop was record large.

Civilian per capita disappearance of corn in 1951 was almost as large as a year earlier. Increases in consumption of corn sugar and corn sirup were apparently more than offset by declines in corn starch, hominy, and corn meal. Retail prices of corn products in 1951 were higher than a year earlier. BLS prices of corn flakes averaged 21.4 cents per 13-ounce box, about 5 percent above the 1950 level; corn meal averaged 9.6 cents per pound, up almost 8 percent.

The 1951 corn crop harvested as grain, 2,653 million bushels, was 4 percent less than the preceding crop, and the smallest since 1947. The reduction in output was due to unfavorable weather chiefly in the western part of the Corn Belt. Distribution of corn for civilian food use totaled about the same as in 1950. Nonfood use continued at practically the rate of 2 preceding years as did exports and shipments to U. S. territories. However, January 1 stocks were reduced about 9 percent from the beginning to the end of the calendar year.

Civilian disappearance of oats was as large on a per person basis as in 1950. As in past years, food use of oats accounted for 2 to 3 percent of the total production, with most of the remainder used as seed and animal feed. The 1951 oats crop was 1,316 million bushels, 7 percent smaller than the output a year earlier. However, supplies were maintained at a high level by the large stocks at the beginning of the year and by imports which probably will total around 50 million bushels, almost entirely from Canada. The December 31 stocks were only 3 percent below those of a year earlier.

Barley consumption by civilians remained at about the same level as in 1950, although about 30 percent above the prewar (1935-39) average annual rate. The 1951 barley crop was 16 percent smaller than the preceding one, but fairly large stocks carried over from 1950 evened out total supplies. Most of the 1951 barley supply was used domestically for seed, as feed for livestock, and for nonfood purposes; civilian food use totaled only 7 million bushels. Exports and shipments to U. S. territories accounted for more than 10 percent of the total distribution of barley in 1951. December 31 stocks were 203 million bushels, 17 percent smaller than a year earlier.

Prospects for 1952

Total stocks of wheat, rye and rice carried over on January 1 were substantially above average and sufficient to meet both anticipated domestic food needs and prospective export requirements until the 1952 crops are harvested next summer, as well as to provide substantial carry-over stocks into the next crop year. On the other hand, stocks of corn, oats, and barley were somewhat smaller than on January 1, 1951, although still well above average. Civilian per capita consumption of grain products in the remainder of this marketing year is expected to be about the same as a yaar earlier. Retail prices of cereal food products are expected to average a little higher during the late winter and early spring than a year earlier, reflecting the pressure of nonfood demand on the smaller supplies of grain, and slightly increased processing costs.

Wheat, stocks on January 1, 1952 totaled 856 million bushels, which is below the 1,002 million of a year earlier, but above the 781 million average for 1946-50. Domestic disappearance in January-June 1952, taking into account possible imports of about 20 million bushels, is expected to total about 395 million bushels, exports about 185 million and shipments 4 million. As a result, the old crop wheat carry-over on July 1, 1952 may be about 25 percent less than on July 1, 1951, but still above the 1946-50 average.

Stocks of rye on January 1, 1952 were 15.7 million bushels compared with 18.4 million a year earlier, and 14.2 million for the 1946-50 average. Rye disappearance in January-June 1952 is expected to total about 9 million bushels, and with exports relatively small, the carry-over on July 1, 1952 may total about 6 million bushels, compared with 5 million for both July 1, 1951 and the 1946-50 average for that date.

Rice supplies for the 1951-52 marketing year are of record size. Civilian consumption per capita may be maintained at about the same relatively high level as in the preceding year. Exports are expected to continue very large, and stocks at the end of the marketing year may be little different from those of a year earlier.

The 2,384 million bushels of corn on hand on January 1 were about 227 million bushels below the big stocks on that date of 1951. January 1 stocks of oats were about 3 percent smaller than a year ago, and barley stocks were about 17 percent lower. Smaller stocks of these grains and the current strong domestic demand are expected to result in somewhat higher prices of these grains and the food products processed from them, at least through the first half of 1952. The carry-over stocks of corn, oats, and barley into the 1952-53 marketing year are expected to be somewhat smaller than at the beginning of 1951-52. Because of declining reserves of these grains, and the prospective heavy requirements during the coming year, the 1952 goals announced by the Department of Agriculture, call for an increase of 6 percent in feed grain acreage and 12 percent in production over 1951.

Sugar

Review of 1951

Preliminary data indicate that domestic marketing of sugar by primary distributors was 7.7 million short tons (raw basis), 8 percent smaller than in 1950. However, indications are that civilian per capita consumption of

sugar was about equal to the 1950 rate of 95.5 pounds (refined basis). Consumption in 1951 was maintained at the preceding year's rate, despite the decline in primary distribution, because consumers used up stocks which they had accumulated during the latter half of 1950. The retail price of sugar in urban areas, averaged 50.6 cents for 5 pounds, slightly above the 1950 level. Retail sugar prices moved downward rather slowly during the last quarter of 1951, just as they did during the comparable period of the preceding year, but did not reach the level which prevailed earlier in the year.

Domestic sugar beet production in 1951 totaled 10.6 million tons, about 22 percent below the crop of a year earlier. Sugar cane production amounted to 5.2 million tons, about 20 percent less than the corresponding 1950 crop. The decline in cane output in 1951 resulted principally from unfavorable weather. Although the primary processing of the 1951 beet and cane crops began in that year, most of the sugar produced from these crops will not move into the consumer market until 1952.

Exports of sugar from the United States were more than a fourth larger than in 1950, according to preliminary reports of primary distributors. The foreign demand for domestic sugar was very strong until the middle of 1951 and the price of sugar in the world market was substantially higher than it was in this country. As a result, in order to limit the exportation of sugar from the United States, export controls were tightened during the period. After mid-year 1951, the gap between the domestic and the world price narrowed, principally because of a decline in the latter. With the easing in the export demand for domestic sugar, the export controls were relaxed.

Prospects for 1952

The sugar marketing quota for 1952, determined in accordance with the provisions of the Sugar Marketing Act of 1948, has been established at 7.7 million short tons, the quantity distributed in the continental United States last year by primary distributors. With a quota of this size, civilian consumption of sugar per person in 1952 will be somewhat less than in 1951, unless stocks held by primary distributors and consumers are reduced further.

One of the important objectives in setting the quota at 7.7 million tons was to make it possible for the prices of raw and refined sugar to increase to the level necessary to "fairly and equitably maintain and protect the domestic sugar industry". An announcement by the Sugar Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration last December stated, "As a result of declining domestic demand for sugar in recent months, sugar prices are too low to maintain domestic beet and cane production. Although domestic sugar prices strengthened during the summer of 1951 when inflationary forces affected the world market, they have declined since then to the low level of last spring." Only a part of this reduction was reflected at the retail level.

The relatively low level of current prices paid to domestic sugar beet and cane producers caused the Department to set the quota at about the same figure as distribution by primary distributors in 1951, which was about 300 thousand tons less than apparent civilian consumption. Indications are that inventories held by consumers are quite low. The quantity of raw sugar available in the offshore areas which normally supply the continental United States is large. Cuba, the most important source of our offshore sugar, probably will have a record crop--estimated at 6.8 million tons--for distribution in 1952.

Table 5.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1949, 1950, 1951 and forecasts for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/ 2/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1949	1950	1951 Prel.	Forecasts for 1952 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Meats (carcass weight)								
Beef	Mil.lb.	6,937	9,448	9,543	8,850	9,800	141	111
Veal	do.	1,038	1,322	1,216	1,050	1,200	116	114
Lamb and mutton	do.	870	607	599	525	575	66	110
Pork (excluding lard)	do.	7,337	10,333	10,751	11,575	11,275	154	97
Total meats	do.	16,182	21,710	22,109	22,000	22,850	141	104
Fish (edible weight)								
Fresh and frozen	do.	615	765	760	3/	3/	...	...
Canned 4/	do.	337	514	643	3/	3/	...	...
Cured	do.	74	63	63	3/	3/	...	...
Total fish	do.	1,026	1,342	1,466	3/	3/	...	...
Poultry and eggs								
Eggs	Mil.doz.	3,335	5,191	5,504	5,530	5,700	171	103
Chickens (dr. wt.)	Mil.lb.	2,327	3,893	4,136	4,609	5,000	215	108
Turkey (dr. wt.)	do.	350	707	755	881	970	277	110
Dairy products								
Total milk 5/	do.	106,450	122,071	123,381	122,390	122,300	115	100
Cheese 6/	do.	669	1,200	1,193	1,158	1,165	174	101
Cond. and evap. milk	do.	2,225	3,107	3,205	3,223	3,230	145	100
Fats and oils								
Butter, farm and factory: (actual weight)	do.	2,170	1,694	1,658	1,475	1,450	67	98
Lard 7/	do.	1,630	2,552	2,645	2,900	2,825	173	97
Margarine (fat content)	do.	303	701	764	845)			
Shortening	do.	1,529	1,487	1,709	1,404)	4,325	180	100
Other edible fats and oils 8/	do.	575	1,785	1,597	2,091)			
Total fats and oils 9/	do.	6,207	8,219	8,373	8,715	8,600	139	99
Fruits								
Fresh:								
Citrus	do.	6,875	7,677	6,754	7,622	7,400	108	97
Apples (commercial)	do.	4,385	4,113	3,848	3,550)	8,350	92	98
Other (excl. melons)	do.	4,703	5,065	4,192	4,993)			
Processed:								
Canned fruit	do.	1,705	2,587	2,716	3,144	3/	...	...
Canned fruit juices	do.	333	2,121	2,078	2,446	3/	...	...
Frozen (incl. juice)	do.	106	488	785	847	3/	...	...
Dried	do.	1,118	971	739	930	3/	...	...

Continued

Table 5.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1949, 1950, 1951 and forecasts for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/2/ - Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1949	1950	1951 Prel.	Forecasts for 1952 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Vegetables								
Fresh 10/	Mil.lb.	30,520	37,257	39,009	38,546	39,500	129	102
Canned 11/	do.	4,030	6,069	5,905	7,770	3/	...	...
Frozen	do.	12/ 78	564	587	700	3/	...	...
Potatoes	Mil.bu.	355	412	430	326	3/	...	...
Sweetpotatoes	do.	68	55	50	28	3/	...	...
Dry edible beans 13/	Mil.lb.	1,360	2,005	1,513	1,600	3/	...	...
Dry field peas 13/	do.	229	296	295	348	3/	...	...
Canned baby foods	do.	48	511	547	550	3/	...	...
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 shtons	1,948	2,112	2,460	2,089	2,300	118	110
Grains								
Wheat	Mil.bu.	759	1,141	1,019	987	1,235	163	125
Rye	do.	44.9	18.7	21.3	21.4	3/	...	...
Rice, milled	Mil.lb.	1,340	2,503	2,644	2,522	2,856	213	113
Corn, grain only	Mil.bu.	2,050	3,115	2,760	2,653	3/	...	...
Oats	do.	1,045	1,329	1,410	1,316	3/	...	...
Barley	do.	239	237	304	255	3/	...	...
Peanuts, farmers' stock basis	Mil.lb.	1,229	1,876	2,022	1,595	3/	...	...

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; rice on a marketing year. 2/ Forecasts or preliminary indications based on trends in livestock numbers, current or prospective rates of output, average or probable acreages and yields, and such other information as was available on February 1. These forecasts are only used to indicate the general level of food supplies for domestic consumption for 1952, and are not official estimates of production. Revisions will of course be made from time to time throughout the year as official indication or estimates are issued through the Crop Reporting Service of the Department. 3/ Not available. 4/ Excludes canned food products containing small quantities of fish such as clam chowder, etc. 5/ Includes total farm production of milk and off-farm production 6/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot and bakers' cheese. 7/ Including amount used in manufactured food and nonfood products. 8/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other minor uses such as fish canning. 9/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 10/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 11/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, tomato juice, and tomato sauce, paste and catsup and chili sauce, mixed vegetables. 12/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 13/ Cleaned basis.

Table 6.- Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, 1940-49 and 1950-51, by months

(Index numbers 1935-39=100)

Year and month	Meats 1/	Eggs	Dairy products 2/	Fats and oils 3/	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables: Fresh	Fruit and vegetables: Canned	Fruit and vegetables: Dried	Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
1940	96	94	101	82	97	97	92	101	97	92	97	100
1941	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	106	105
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	126	122	124	117
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	177	130	166	126	124	136	126
1945	131	164	134	124	109	188	130	168	126	125	139	129
1946	161	169	165	152	125	191	141	190	144	140	160	140
1947	217	201	186	198	155	202	166	264	180	187	194	160
1948	246	209	205	196	171	212	158	247	174	205	210	172
1949	233	201	187	148	170	219	153	227	176	221	202	170
1950	244	174	185	144	173	206	146	229	180	313	204	172
Jan.	219	152	184	135	169	217	143	224	179	300	196	168
Feb.	222	141	184	134	169	209	143	222	178	303	195	168
Mar.	229	150	182	134	169	202	143	222	177	308	197	168
Apr.	231	150	180	136	169	208	142	222	175	306	197	168
May	240	144	178	138	170	214	142	223	174	299	200	169
June	246	148	178	140	170	224	143	223	174	296	203	170
July	256	163	181	142	172	228	143	223	176	303	208	172
Aug.	261	182	184	154	176	197	146	228	186	321	210	173
Sept.	261	192	187	155	177	184	148	230	185	327	210	175
Oct.	253	206	192	153	177	188	152	236	185	333	211	176
Nov.	250	205	193	153	178	196	153	242	185	326	211	176
Dec.	253	249	194	158	178	207	155	249	185	328	216	179
1951	272	211	206	169	188	223	166	250	187	344	227	186
Jan.	264	192	203	172	185	220	161	253	186	341	222	182
Feb.	270	180	204	176	187	233	165	257	186	343	226	184
Mar.	272	195	205	177	188	221	167	257	186	343	226	184
Apr.	273	191	204	178	188	216	169	258	186	344	226	185
May	273	198	204	177	188	226	170	257	185	345	227	185
June	272	201	204	175	188	224	170	254	186	345	227	185
July	273	212	205	169	189	222	170	251	188	345	228	186
Aug.	275	226	206	163	189	209	166	248	188	345	227	186
Sept.	276	239	206	162	189	204	164	246	188	345	227	187
Oct.	277	243	208	161	189	214	163	241	187	346	229	187
Nov.	274	242	210	158	190	235	163	238	187	347	231	189
Dec.	270	217	213	158	190	255	163	239	186	347	232	189

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The consumer price index is adjusted for "new unit bias" in rents beginning 1940; in addition, beginning 1950 all series are adjusted for expanded commodity coverage and revisions in both commodity and population weights. Detailed description of the adjustments are published in the April 1951 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

1/ Includes chicken and fish. 2/ Includes butter. 3/ Excludes butter.

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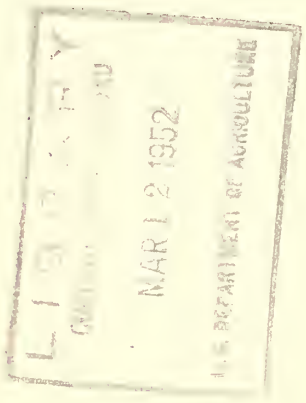

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THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-60 BAE APRIL-JUNE 1952

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, May 20, 1952

SUMMARY

Food supplies for the next few months are expected to be at least as large as in the same period in 1951. Somewhat larger supplies of beef and veal, poultry products, canned fruit, and processed vegetables will be available than a year earlier, but supplies of pork, butter and summer oranges will be somewhat smaller. The over-all level of retail food prices probably will continue relatively stable although the prices of some foods will change with seasonal variations in supplies.

Food production may set a new record this year. Marketings of livestock products probably will be larger than in 1951, and as of May 1, the prospects for crops were brighter than a year earlier. Total military takings of food probably will differ relatively little from the quantities purchased in 1951. Food exports in 1952, however, may amount to less than in 1951.

For 1952 as a whole, civilian food consumption per capita is expected to equal and perhaps slightly exceed the 1951 rate, which was 11 percent above the prewar average. Most of the gain is expected to result from small increases in available supplies of some of the livestock products.

Domestic demand for food is likely to continue fairly strong throughout the year, reflecting the continued build-up in national defense expenditures and consumer incomes. But with food supplies large and the likelihood of increased output of other consumer goods, no significant change in the general level of retail food prices appears likely for the remaining months of 1952.

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1941, 1950, 1951 and preliminary indications for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1941	1950	1951	Indications for 1952 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Food grains 3/	131	148	145	186	128
Truck crops 4/	116	145	158	154	97
Fruits and nuts 5/	113	126	127	126	99
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 6/	100	113	89	89	100
Sugar crops 7/	97	112	87	81	93
Total food crops 8/	116	134	128	139	109
Meat animals 9/	117	138	143	149	104
Poultry 10/	120	179	191	202	106
Dairy products 11/	110	113	112	112	100
Total food livestock	115	138	142	147	104
Food production	115	137	139	145	104
Agricultural production, food and nonfood	113	135	140	146	104
Civilian per capita food consumption	109	111	111	112	101

1/ Beginning with 1950, the data for most commodities have been revised to reflect changes in estimates of production which incorporated benchmark data from the 1950 Census of Agriculture. Revisions for the years 1945-49 are not yet complete. 2/ Production estimates are based on prospective acreage, preliminary crop indications and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1952. 3/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat. 4/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes). 5/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts. 6/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes. 7/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup. 8/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops. 9/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs. 10/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers. 11/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Total food utilization: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average, 1940-44 and 1950-52 1/

Year	Total food utilization	Source of total food: Food production	Imports	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Distribution: Civilian	Military, including military civilian feeding	Department of Agriculture 2/: Net purchases	Deliveries	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Commercial exports and shipments 3/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Section a. Percentage of food utilization in each year												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	100.0	95.1	5.5		.6	98.0						2.0
1941	100.0	94.4	5.8		.2	93.8	2.0	2.4	1.9		.5	1.8
1942	100.0	94.2	3.7	2.1		87.2	5.8	5.9	4.5		1.4	1.1
1943	100.0	95.8	4.8		.6	81.4	9.6	8.1	7.1		1.0	.9
1944	100.0	94.0	5.0	1.0		79.7	13.2	6.0	6.5	.5		1.1
1950	100.0	95.0	5.3		.3	93.0	4/ 2.0	1.7	1.5		.2	3.3
1951	100.0	94.7	5.1	.2		89.8	4/ 3.9	1.2	1.9	.7		5.1
1952 Forecast:	100.0	95.3	4.5	.2		90.7	4/ 3.9	.9	1.2	.3		4.5
Section b. Percentage of 1935-39 food utilization												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	109.6	104.2	6.0		.6	107.4						2.2
1941	114.4	108.0	6.7		.3	107.3	2.3	2.7	2.2		.5	2.1
1942	125.6	118.3	4.7	2.6		109.5	7.3	7.4	5.6		1.8	1.4
1943	131.3	125.8	6.3		.8	106.9	12.7	10.6	9.3		1.3	1.1
1944	139.9	131.5	7.0	1.4		111.4	18.4	8.5	9.1	.6		1.6
1950	135.4	128.6	7.2		.4	126.0	4/ 2.7	2.3	2.0		.3	4.4
1951	137.8	130.5	7.0	.3		123.8	4/ 5.4	1.6	2.6	1.0		7.0
1952 Forecast:	142.8	136.1	6.4	.3		129.5	4/ 5.5	1.4	1.8	.4		6.4

1/ Beginning with 1950, the data for most commodities have been revised to reflect changes in estimates of production which incorporated benchmark data from the 1950 Census of Agriculture. Revisions for the years 1945-49 are not yet complete. The upper section of the table divides the total utilization in each year (1) according to the source of the food and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total utilization figures and the break-down are on an index number basis, that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The utilization figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower section contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food utilization in 1935-39 instead of total utilization each year. 2/ The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are food for lend-lease, relief, and purchases for foreign governments, except meat transactions in the drought years. These quantities are measured (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks are included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. When Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased, stocks were built up; and vice versa. 3/ For the war years, these data indicate the commercial portion of exports and shipments, which is total exports and shipments minus the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture. 4/ Including procurement for relief feeding in areas occupied by our armed forces.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES

Retail food prices during the first quarter of 1952 averaged about the same as in the preceding quarter, but slightly above the level for January-March 1951. Compared with a year earlier, the BLS retail price indexes for eggs, fats and oils, and dried fruits and vegetables were noticeably lower this year, while those for dairy products, fresh fruits and vegetables, and cereal products were higher. Current indications are that overall retail food prices in the next few months will be relatively stable, with price movements for individual commodities reflecting mainly seasonal changes in supplies.

Prospects for the remainder of 1952 point to a continuation of both a high level of consumer incomes and a fairly strong demand for most consumer goods and services, but no strong upward price pressures are expected in view of the supply outlook. General economic activity during the last half of the year, influenced by rising Government expenditures for the Nation's defense and by the continued high level of business investment in new plant and equipment, is expected to be at a record rate.

Retail prices of food and other consumer goods and services are expected to remain fairly stable during the remainder of the year. Relatively large supplies of consumer commodities will tend to offset the effect on prices of a high-level demand, particularly in the case of food. Continued large supplies of the other consumer goods and services appear likely in view of the large volume of new plant and equipment installed during the past year and by the recent marked improvement in the availability of many metals and other raw materials used in the production of a large number of consumer goods. However, a deterioration in the international situation could alter the picture materially by causing a step-up in the currently planned rate of defense build-up or by setting off another wave of buying by consumers and business.

Exports and military takings of food probably will exert less pressure on domestic food prices than they did last year. Military takings probably will not be noticeably different from those in 1951, while food exports in 1952 are likely to be somewhat smaller.

NUTRITIONAL REVIEW 1/

The present favorable outlook for food supplies, along with the current rate of civilian consumption, indicates that the high nutritional quality of American diets will be maintained, although the record of 1946 will not be attained in 1952.

1/ Prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

Table 3.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951, and preliminary indication for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

(Primary distribution weight)

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1950	1951 Prel.	Preliminary indication for 1952	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent
Meats (carcass weight)- Total	126.2	143.5	137.7	140	111	102
Beef	55.2	63.0	56.1	60	109	107
Veal	8.1	8.0	6.6	7	86	106
Lamb and mutton	6.8	3.9	3.4	3.8	56	112
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	68.6	71.6	69	123	96
Fish (edible weight)-Total	11.1	11.5	11.4	11.4	103	100
Fresh and frozen	5.3	6.3	6.4	2/	---	---
Canned 3/	4.8	4.3	5.0	2/	---	---
Cured	1.0	.9				
Poultry products						
Eggs - number	298	386	397	412	138	104
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	26.4	28.8	30.2	169	105
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	4.9	5.2	5.8	223	112
Dairy products						
Cheese	5.5	7.7	7.2	7.5	136	104
Condensed and evaporated milk	16.7	20.0	18.1	17.5	105	97
Fluid milk and cream	340	4/385	4/395	4/400	118	101
Fats and oils- Total, fat content 5/	44.7	45.8	42.3	43.6	98	103
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	10.7	9.7	9.0	54	93
Lard	11.0	12.1	12.2	12.6	115	103
Margarine (actual weight)	2.9	6.1	6.5			
Shortening	11.7	11.0	9.0	25.1	120	107
Other edible fats and oils	6.3	9.1	8.0			
Fruits						
Fresh - total	138.5	4/108.6	4/119.4	4/115	83	96
Citrus	48.9	4/40.9	4/44.7	4/44	90	98
Apples (commercial)	30.4	4/22.8	4/25.7	4/23	76	89
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	4/44.9	4/49.0	4/48	81	98
Processed						
Canned fruit	14.9	20.9	18.8	19.7	132	105
Canned juices	3.9	13.7	14.8	13.4	344	91
Frozen (including juices)	.8	4.3	4.7	5.3	662	113
Dried	5.8	4.3	4.6	2/	---	---
Vegetables						
Fresh	235	4/252	4/254	4/247	105	97
Canned	29.9	41.8	41.5	42.0	140	101
Frozen	6/ .4	3.3	4.1	4.0	1,000	98
Potatoes	131	104	104	101	77	97
Sweetpotatoes	21.4	12.8	6.5	7.4	35	114
Dry edible beans	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.6	98	101
Dry field peas	.6	.7	.7	2/	---	---
Sugar, refined	97.0	95.5	96.3	7/91-96	96	97
Grains						
Corn products:						
Corn meal	22.9	13.5	13.2	13	57	98
Corn sirup	7.6	9.1	9.0	9.0	118	100
Corn starch	1.3	1.9	1.9	1.9	146	100
Corn sugar	2.7	4.5	4.1	4.3	159	105
Breakfast cereals	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	94	100
Hominy	1.4	2.7	2.5	2.5	179	100
Oatmeal	3.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	77	100
Barley food products 8/	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	114	100
Wheat:						
Flour 9/	159	133	133	133	84	100
Breakfast cereals	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	89	100
Rye flour	2.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	73	100
Rice, milled	5.6	5.0	5.8	5.8	104	100
Beverages						
Coffee 10/	14.0	16.1	16.4	16.4	117	100
Tea	.67	.60	.67	.66	99	99
Cocoa beans	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.1	93	102
Peanuts (shelled)	4.3	4.4	4.4	2/	---	---

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel not eating out of civilian supplies.
1/ Quantity in pounds except for eggs which are stated in number. Data on calendar year basis except for dried fruits which are on a pack-year baeis; fresh citrus fruits, dry field peas and peanuts on a crop-year basis; rice on August 1 year; and canned fruit and vegetables on pack-year basis in 1935-39. All years begin in year indicated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begine in August of previous year. 2/ Not available. 3/ Excludee canned food products containing small quantities of fish euch as clam chowder, etc. 4/ Unrevised for results of 1950 Census of Agriculture. 5/ Computed from unrounded data. 6/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 7/ Based on the U. S. domestic requirements of 7,700 thouesnd tons (raw value) as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. 8/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent. 9/ Includes white, whole wheat, and semolina flour. 10/ Green bean basis.

Supplies of major nutrients available for civilian consumption have changed significantly since prewar (1935-39). In the past several years, food supplies in the country as a whole have been more abundant and varied, with larger quantities of dairy products, fruits and vegetables, and meat, poultry and fish -- foods that make important contributions to good diets. The enrichment of grain products has helped to safeguard diets with respect to iron and the three B vitamins. In 1946, the nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day reached an all-time peak. From 1946 to 1949, estimates of apparent civilian consumption indicate a slight downward trend in supplies of major nutrients. For most of the major nutrients this trend appears to have been reversed in 1950.

Table 4. - Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and preliminary indications for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

Nutrients	Units	Average 1935-39	1950	1951 Prel.	Prel. indications for 1952	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Food energy	Cal.	3,280	3,270	3,240	3,250	99	100
Protein	Grams	89	94	95	96	108	101
Fat	Grams	132	146	141	144	109	102
Carbohydrate	Grams	431	399	403	396	92	98
Calcium	Grams	.94	1.06	1.07	1.08	115	101
Iron	Mg.	13.6	16.3	16.4	16.6	122	101
Vitamin A value	I.U.	8,100	8,500	8,000	8,100	100	101
Thiamine	Mg.	1.43	1.90	1.93	1.91	134	99
Riboflavin	Mg.	1.86	2.35	2.36	2.39	128	101
Niacin	Mg.	15.2	19.0	18.7	19.1	126	102
Ascorbic acid	Mg.	115	117	119	117	102	98

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption from urban gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss or waste in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food. Deductions have been made for inedible refuse. The data for 1936-52 for iron, thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to prepared cereals, bread and white flour.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Civilians have been consuming more meat per person during the past few months than in the early part of 1951. The increase has occurred principally in pork, lamb, and mutton. Prospects are that meat consumption in the next few months will continue at a slightly higher rate than a year earlier. Retail prices of meat in large cities in the first quarter of 1952 averaged about the same as a year earlier, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with beef higher and pork prices lower. However, in early 1951 prices were generally rising but this year they declined during the first 3 months, thus following more nearly the usual seasonal pattern of declines for all meats except lamb and mutton.

Production of beef and veal in the first quarter of 1952 about equaled that of January-March 1951. But output of lamb and mutton was 21 percent larger and pork production was up about 14 percent. During the remainder of the year, total meat production is expected to remain a little above the output of the corresponding months of 1951. The difference over a year ago is expected to narrow in the months ahead, and is likely to be only slight next fall. Pork production in the last half of 1952 will likely be somewhat smaller than a year earlier.

Most of the increase in output this year compared with last will be available for civilians, so per capita consumption in 1952 is likely to average about 2 pounds higher than 137.7 pounds in 1951. The slightly larger supplies--including considerably more beef and veal, a little more lamb and mutton, but slightly less pork--are expected to ease the pressure of demand on retail meat prices compared with 1951.

Current prospects are for increased production of both beef and veal. The total number of cattle and calves on farms and ranches at the beginning of 1952, estimated at 88.1 million head, was more than 7 percent greater than a year earlier and the largest on record for that date. The number of cattle raised is expected to continue expanding. The point has now been reached where marketing of cattle for slaughter can be increased, while at the same time permitting a further gain in animal numbers. To date this year, grain-fed cattle have comprised a larger proportion of the total number of cattle slaughtered than a year earlier. Marketings of grain-fed cattle probably will continue above a year earlier through early-or-mid-fall but are less likely to exceed 1951 late in the year. Marketings of grass-fat cattle, on the other hand, will exceed a year earlier in the last half of 1952 and probably will comprise a larger part of the total number of animals marketed for slaughter. Consequently, output of the higher grades of beef this fall probably will be only a little larger than last fall, while supplies of medium and lower grades of beef probably will be up relatively more.

Supplies of veal thus far in 1952 have been nearly as large as a year earlier. During the remaining months of the year, they are expected to exceed only slightly the comparable 1951 level. Cattle producers are likely again this year to retain large numbers of calves for feeding to maturity or for addition to breeding herds.

Larger supplies of lamb and mutton in the early months of 1952 than a year earlier reflected the increased number of lambs in feed lots since the latter part of 1951. Supplies of lamb and mutton during the remainder of the year probably will be only a little above a year earlier. Sheep and lamb numbers continue to expand, but probably at a slower rate than in 1951.

Current indications are that the 1952 total output of pork will be smaller than that of 1951. Weekly reports show that hog slaughter and pork production have recently been below last year's levels, and they will be smaller than last year during the rest of 1952. As a result, civilian per capita consumption of pork this year probably will be about 4 percent smaller than the 72 pounds consumed last year. Because of smaller supplies, the retail price of all pork products during the last few months of 1952 may average about as high or a little higher than in the same months last year.

The number of hogs on farms on January 1 this year was about 2 percent greater than was reported a year earlier. However, the hog population was rather sharply reduced during the first quarter of 1952 by unusually heavy marketings for slaughter, while the number farrowed probably has been below the previous year since last September. Farmers did not plan to produce as large a spring crop this year as last apparently because of the much lower hog prices in relation to the price of corn. Thus marketings for slaughter this fall are expected to be smaller than last fall.

Imports of meat in 1952 will be smaller than last year's record level. However, this reduction will have little effect on the total quantity of meat available to domestic consumers since imports have always represented a very small part of total domestic supplies.

Fishery Products 1/

Civilian supplies and consumption of fishery products apparently have been running at about the same level as a year earlier, and are expected to continue to do so at least through mid-year. Slightly less canned fish commodities have been available than in the comparable period of 1951, but the indicated increase in the consumption of fresh and frozen products about offset the decline in the canned items. The index of retail prices of all fishery products in urban areas for the first quarter of 1952, averaged 350.2 (1935-39=100), about the same as a year earlier, according to reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Indications are that retail prices during the second quarter may decline a little to a level about the same as in the April-June months of 1951.

The commercial catch of fishery products during the winter of 1952 totaled somewhat smaller than a year earlier. Part of the decline resulted from the fact that unfavorable weather hampered commercial fishing operations off the New England coast. In addition to reduced landings in New England, economic factors were responsible for a shift in the type of fishing operations. The strong market demand for cod and haddock encouraged fishermen to concentrate their production activities on these species; with less emphasis on fishing for ocean perch than last winter.

1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior.

Commercial freezings of edible fishery products in the Continental United States during January-April totaled 49.9 million pounds, more than 4 percent greater than in the same months last year. All of the increase occurred during January; freezings in the 3 subsequent months were not quite as large as a year earlier. The volume of fishery products frozen is expected to increase by mid-1952, reflecting the seasonal expansion in landings. Cold-storage holdings are nearing their seasonal low, but are running much higher than a year earlier. On May 1, 1952 they amounted to about 105.8 million pounds, more than 26 percent above those on the preceding May 1 and the largest on record for that date.

Total supplies of canned fish were a little smaller in January-April than a year earlier. Slightly more pink salmon was available, but supplies of the other popular species of canned fish were somewhat smaller. Prospects are that total supplies will continue below a year earlier at least until after mid-year when the new packs start moving into distribution channels.

Imports of frozen groundfish (cod, haddock, hake, pollock, and cusk) and ocean perch fillets during the first quarter of this year totaled 31 million pounds, more than 35 percent above a year earlier. Indications at this time are that imports of these products will continue at a high rate during the second quarter. Exports of canned fishery products during January-March lagged significantly behind the rate in the same months of 1951. The decline in exports was in large part due to foreign trade restrictions, and, to a lesser extent, to smaller supplies and higher prices than last year of the species of canned fish which are popular abroad. Exports of canned fishery products during the second quarter of 1952 probably will continue at a lower rate than a year earlier.

Poultry and Eggs

The production of poultry meat and eggs in the first 4 months of 1952 was larger than a year earlier, and prospects point to continued higher output in the next few months. Civilian consumption of these products thus far this year has been at a higher rate per person than in the same months in 1951 and probably will remain above a year earlier in the late spring and early summer. Retail prices of eggs in urban areas through March averaged about 10 percent lower and poultry meat slightly lower than in the corresponding period of 1951, according to reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Expectations are that prices will continue below last year's level in the near future.

The combined May 1 cold-storage stocks of shell and frozen eggs amounted to the equivalent of 150 million dozen, 34 percent more than a year earlier. The increase resulted from the large volume of shell eggs stored during the first quarter of 1952. The eggs which have been stored thus far this year will be moved into distribution channels after mid-summer, when production will be seasonaly low.

For 1952 as a whole, civilian consumption of eggs probably will set a new record, exceeding last year's rate of 397 eggs per person perhaps by 10. A record output of eggs this year is now expected because of the larger number of layers currently on farms and the large

number of replacement chicks that were hatched early in the spring. Production is now declining seasonally. After mid-year, the quantity of eggs withdrawn from cold storage for consumption probably will exceed those of a year earlier. Last summer, stocks of shell eggs were the second lowest of record, and the volume moved into distribution channels provided only about 3 percent of the total supply in July-December. In the latter half of 1950, on the other hand, supplies of shell eggs moving out of cold storage accounted for almost 5 percent of the total.

A Government surplus removal program for eggs was announced on April 9. The program authorizes the purchase of up to 500,000 cases of shell eggs for distribution in the last 4 months of 1952 to the School Lunch and other eligible outlets. The quantity which may be bought under this program is quite small when compared with the quantities of dried eggs purchased by the Department of Agriculture under the price-support program in 1949 and 1950 ---- the equivalent of 6 1/2 and 8 million cases of shell eggs, respectively.

Total poultry meat consumption per person by civilians in 1952 is expected to be somewhat above last year's record of 34.0 pounds. Supplies have been large thus far this year and current indications are that they will continue plentiful. As of the beginning of May, placements of chicks for commercial broilers were so numerous as to assure large supplies of this type of poultry meat through mid-year. After mid-year, sales of chickens from farm flocks will increase seasonally and provide most of the supplies of chicken meat. Turkey production will also be large this year. Reports indicate that in the first few months of the current hatching season, young turkeys were being hatched at a rate considerably above farmers' earlier intentions which were to raise 11 percent more turkeys this year than last.

Retail prices of eggs and poultry meat through March 1952 have averaged somewhat lower than in the same quarter of last year. Expectations at this time are that retail prices of eggs will average lower for 1952 as a whole than in 1951. The level of chicken meat prices probably will not be much different from that of last year, especially if pork supplies are no larger than currently anticipated.

Dairy Products

Supplies of dairy products through mid-spring this year were slightly below those of the corresponding part of 1951 because of lower carry-over stocks at the beginning of the year and the smaller output of milk. As a result, civilian per capita disappearance of dairy products was somewhat smaller than a year earlier. Practically all of the decline was accounted for by a sharp reduction (about 15 percent) in civilian takings of butter. Consumption of cheese and ice cream per person apparently was slightly larger than in the first 4 months of 1951, but that of fluid milk and cream was about equal. BLS monthly retail prices of dairy products in large cities for the first quarter of 1952 averaged 6 percent higher than a year earlier. The price increases were largest for butter and fluid milk; smaller increases occurred for the other major dairy products reported.

Milk production through April 1952 was slightly below the rate of a year earlier. The reduction resulted from a 1 percent decrease in cows on farms at the beginning of the year and a sligthly lower rate of milk production per cow.

In the next few months, supplies of all dairy products will be seasonally large. However, "storage demand" for the processed products is likely to be strong and civilian consumption per person during this period may be no larger than in the corresponding months of 1951. The processed dairy products which will move into storage during the high production period this spring and early summer will be held for subsequent distribution for consumption during the low production season later this year.

For the year, as a whole, civilian consumption of dairy products per person probably will be somewhat smaller, on a fat solids basis, than in 1951. As was the case in 1951, most of the reduction in the per capita consumption rate will be accounted for by butter. Civilians are expected to buy nearly as much evaporated milk per person as last year, and the consumption rate for fluid milk and cream, cheese and ice cream may be slightly higher. With consumer incomes likely to remain high in 1952 and supplies no larger than last year, retail prices of dairy products for the year as a whole are expected to average somewhat higher than for 1951.

Total milk production this year is expected to be somewhat below last year and the lowest since 1948. On a per capita basis, output may be the smallest in the 28 years for which records are available. However, a larger proportion of the supply of non-fat milk solids is currently used than in past years. Much more of the milk supply now is sold as fluid milk or goes into manufactured whole milk products or skim milk products. Sufficient supplies of milk will be available to meet the expected domestic demand for fluid milk and cream although at prices slightly higher than those currently prevailing.

Imports of cheese are likely to be lower in 1952 than a year earlier if present import restrictions continue in effect. No butter may be imported under present regulations. Exports of dairy products have been running at a lower rate than last year; for the year as a whole, total exports probably will be considerably less than those of 1951.

Fats and Oils

Apparent civilian disappearance of food fats and oils in 1952 is expected to exceed last year's rate of 42.3 pounds per capita. Most of the increase in consumption probably will occur in margarine and shortening, with smaller increase likely in cooking and salad oils.

Primary distribution of the edible fats and oils into domestic consumption channels very early in 1952 was smaller than a year earlier when substantial quantities were purchased by the trade for inventory accumulation in anticipation of higher prices. However, in the last few months domestic disappearance has begun to exceed that in the same part of 1951 probably

because stocks in unreported positions have been reduced to low levels. Through most of 1951 and into early 1952, the movement of edible fats and oils out of unreported stocks apparently maintained actual civilian consumption per person at a higher rate than that indicated by the marketings of primary dealers during the corresponding period.

Supplies of food fats and oils through the summer will be more than ample to meet all anticipated domestic and foreign requirements. Stocks at the end of the current marketing year probably will be substantially greater than the 590 million pounds on October 1, 1951. Less butter is currently available than at the same time in 1951 and supplies probably will continue smaller than a year earlier throughout most of 1952, but supplies of the other fats and oils are larger.

Production of animal fats in calendar year 1952 probably will be approximately the same as last year. Lard production will be about as large as in 1951, with increased output during the first half of the year about offsetting the decline expected in the second half. Prospects for smaller output of lard in the latter half of 1952 are based on the estimated 9 percent decline in this year's spring pig crop, compared with the 1951 spring crop. With milk production likely to be no larger than last year and consumer demand for fluid milk and most manufactured dairy products likely to continue strong, the output of butter this year probably will be somewhat smaller than in 1951.

The output of vegetable oil products in prospect for this year will be somewhat larger than in calendar year 1951. Increases are expected for margarine, shortening, and the other cooking and salad oils. Current supplies of the vegetable oils for processing are large, and the output of the finished products during the latter half of 1952 can be maintained at a rate sufficient to meet both domestic and foreign needs.

Production and civilian consumption per person of margarine in 1952 will reach a record high rate. A factor contributing to the increase in both output and consumption this year is the repeal of prohibitions on the production and sale of colored margarine in Pennsylvania, which became effective last September, and in New York, effective July 1, 1952. After mid-1952, only 7 States (Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Washington), which the 1950 Census of Population reports having almost 10 percent of the total U. S. population, will have prohibitions against colored margarine.

Exports of fats and oils in calendar year 1952 are likely to remain high, but the total for the year may not reach last year's record level. The possible decline in exports arises from increased foreign supplies and the continued unfavorable dollar balances of many foreign nations.

The BLS index of retail prices of the food fats and oils other than butter during the first quarter of this year averaged 15 percent lower than for January-March 1951. Butter prices, on the other hand, averaged more than 11 percent higher than a year earlier, despite the sharp decline in the wholesale price which occurred in March of this year. With supplies of most food fats and oils likely to remain large during the remainder of 1952, retail prices of these commodities in the next few months will continue below the early 1952 level and much below those of late spring and summer last year. For butter, however, prices probably will average somewhat higher than last year.

Fruits

Prospects for fruit supplies for civilians this spring and early summer are somewhat more favorable than a year ago. Early season prospects point to a large crop of deciduous fruits this summer. Stocks of processed fruits and juices from last year's packs are still relatively plentiful. Retail prices of fresh oranges, fresh grapefruit and many processed fruits have been lower than last year thus far in 1952, and probably will remain below the comparable 1951 level during the remainder of the spring season.

Unlike last year when unfavorable winter weather had damaged fruit trees and buds in several areas, deciduous trees generally have come through this past winter in good condition. In the 10 Southern early peach States, which are the source of many of the peaches marketed during June and July, the 1952 crop is expected to be slightly larger than last year's, but about 9 percent below average. The May 1 condition of California peaches pointed to a crop nearly as big as the above-average 1951 crop.

This year's crop of strawberries will be the largest in 10 years, according to May 1 indications. The larger crop this year will result from increased yields per acre, which will more than offset the effects of the smaller acreage for harvest. The mid-spring crop now moving to market is about 6 percent larger than that of 1951, and the late spring crop may be as much as 12 percent larger. As usual, a large part of the late-spring crop probably will be taken by processors of frozen strawberries.

Fewer fresh oranges but more fresh grapefruit are available this spring than last. Prospects for next summer point to smaller supplies of fresh oranges than in the same months in 1951. The California valencia orange crop, which is the principal source of fresh oranges during the summer months, is now expected to be more than 10 percent smaller than last year. However, the decline in market supplies of fresh oranges from last year's rate may not be as large as the reduction in total output would indicate because a larger proportion of the 1952 crop may be shipped in fresh market channels.

Supplies of canned fruits from the record 1951 packs are sufficiently large to permit civilians to consume more of these commodities per person in the next few months than they did a year earlier. Combined packer and wholesale distributor stocks of canned fruits on April 1, 1952 were about one-fifth greater than a year earlier. Reported holdings of canned peaches, pears and fruit cocktail were especially large.

Canned fruit juice supplies, especially of citrus products, are somewhat smaller at this time than the very large supplies of a year earlier. However, they are sufficient to meet anticipated consumer demand at about present prices during the spring and summer of this year. Unfavorable prices to canners of citrus juices plus severe competition from the relatively low-priced frozen orange juice had a dampening effect on canning operations this year. The pack of Florida canned citrus juices thus far in the 1951-52 season is about one-fifth below that of a year earlier.

Supplies of frozen orange juice concentrate will continue large during the remainder of 1952. Through early May, the output of frozen orange juice in Florida was nearly twice the volume produced during the comparable part of the 1950-51 season. So far this season, considerably more Florida oranges have been utilized for the production of the frozen concentrate than for canned juice. The retail price of frozen orange juice concentrate in the next few months is expected to continue below a year earlier. Prices thus far in 1952 have been considerably below those of the same months in 1951. This has contributed substantially to the continued increase in civilian consumption of frozen orange juice. Stocks of the other frozen fruit items on May 1 were about 8 percent smaller than last year at the same date. The new packing season is already under way for strawberries, and it will start soon for the other fruits and berries.

The 1951-52 pack of dried fruits was about one-fourth larger than that of a year earlier, with most of the increase in dried prunes and raisins. Retail prices of the major items have been somewhat lower this year. Apparent civilian consumption has been running at a slightly higher rate than in 1950-51, but supplies have exceeded domestic takings. The Department of Agriculture inaugurated an export-payment program to help market the increased 1951-52 packs of dried prunes and raisins. By May 16 the Department had approved for export under this program about 58,000 tons--27 percent--of the 1951-52 raisin pack and 32,000 tons--18 percent--of the prune pack. In addition, the Government has purchased more than 5,000 tons of dried prunes for distribution under the School Lunch program.

Vegetables

Fewer fresh vegetables were available for consumers during the early months of 1952 than a year earlier, largely because of smaller acreage and lower yields per acre than in 1951, and smaller carry-over stocks of cabbage and onions than at the beginning of last year. Demand was strong during the first quarter of 1952, and retail prices averaged about as high as a year earlier.

Civilian consumption of fresh vegetables per person in the next few months probably will equal that in the same part of 1951. Increased output, compared with last year, is expected for the spring crops of asparagus, beets, spinach, carrots, cabbage, lettuce, watermelons and onions. On the other hand, reduced production is in prospect for lima beans, cantaloups, celery, cucumbers, tomatoes, eggplant, green peas, shallots, snap beans, green peppers and cauliflower. Retail prices of fresh vegetables in the next few months will be lower than at present as total supplies begin to increase seasonally, but probably won't average much different than a year earlier.

Indications of supplies for the last half of the year are available for only a few vegetables. Farmers' planting intentions as of early March indicated that slightly less acreage than in 1951 will be devoted in the commercial producing areas to the summer crops of cabbage and onions, and slightly more acreage in watermelons. Small but appreciable increases in early fall cabbage acreage are expected.

For the year as a whole, domestic demand for fresh vegetables is expected to continue strong, and retail prices probably will average about as high as for 1951.

Civilians have apparently consumed somewhat larger quantities of commercially canned and frozen vegetables thus far in 1952 than a year earlier. Relatively large stocks at the end of March indicated that civilian consumption can be maintained at the present high rate until the new packs become available. Retail prices of the major processed vegetables during the first 3 months of this year averaged moderately lower than in the first quarter of last year according to BLS reports, and probably will be no higher than the comparable 1951 prices through early summer.

The 1952 packs of commercially processed vegetables, especially the canned products, may not total quite as large as last year's, according to present indications. However, military takings are likely to be smaller than those from the 1951 packs and sizable stocks of many processed vegetables are now on hand. Supplies will be sufficient to maintain civilian per capita consumption of canned and frozen vegetables at a high rate during the remainder of 1952 and provide for adequate carry-over stocks into 1953. Retail prices of commercially processed vegetables this year are expected to average about the same as in 1951.

The volume of potatoes which moved into civilian distribution channels during the first quarter of 1952 was about as large as in the same months of last year when the Government price-support program diverted substantial quantities. Demand for potatoes was strong during the first quarter, and BLS mid-month retail prices averaged about 6.8 cents per pound (in 15 pound units), more than half again as much as the January-March 1951 average.

Large volume marketings from the 1952 late commercial spring crop are expected to begin in late spring. From that time through early summer retail potato prices are expected to be lower than at present, although higher than those which prevailed in the same period last year.

For the second half of this year, supply prospects depend on the acreage farmers will plant in the "intermediate" and "late" potato producing States, and the yields on these acreages. Farmers' planting intentions as of early March indicated about the same acreage as last year. If yields per acre equal the 1949-51 average, production from the prospective potato acreage in 1952 will be somewhat larger than last year. The potato crop in 1951 was the smallest since 1936.

Smaller supplies of sweetpotatoes have been available to consumers this year than in the corresponding months of last year because of the reduced stocks on January 1 from the very small 1951 crop. Output this year will be about one-seventh larger than in 1951 if growers' planting intentions as of early March materialize and if yields by States equal the 5 year (1946-50) average. Even so, the crop would be smaller than any crop since 1883, other than that of 1951. Civilian consumption of sweetpotatoes per capita in 1952 probably will be somewhat higher than last year, but the rate will still be one of the lowest on record. Retail prices this year are expected to average about as high as for 1951.

The domestic demand for dry edible beans and peas is expected to continue fairly strong throughout most of 1952. Total supples are likely to be somewhat smaller than last year if farmers produce no more than the early March planting intentions indicated. However, since the non-civilian demand for dry beans and peas is currently not as strong as it was during the war and immediate postwar years, supplies are expected to be adequate to permit civilians to consume about as much per person in 1952-53 as a year earlier, expecially if year-end stocks are reduced somewhat. Retail prices of dry beans and peas probably will be somewhat higher in 1952-53 if supplies are no larger than currently anticipated.

Grain products

Grain supplies available for use during the remainder of the 1951-52 crop year and in prospect for 1952-53 will be sufficient to meet domestic food and export needs. However, supply prospects for feed grains--which will affect the supply of livestock products during the rest of 1952 and in 1953--are comparatively less favorable than for food grains. Civilian consumption per capita of cereal food products in calendar year 1952 probably will equal last year's rate. The retail prices of most grain products are expected to continue fairly stable at about the present level, and for the year as a whole are likely to average about as high or slightly higher than for 1951.

Food grain supplies (wheat, rye, and rice) in the remaining months of the current marketing year will meet prospective domestic and export needs, and provide somewhat larger carry-over stocks into 1952-53 than the 5 year (1946-50) average. Current indications point to a large crop of food grains in 1952, and thus also to plentiful supplies in 1952-53.

The outlook for wheat in 1952-53 currently appears favorable. The winter wheat crop as of May 1 was indicated at 986 million bushels. If farmers plant the acreage indicated by their reported March 1 intentions and yields equal the 1946-50 average, the spring wheat crop would total 307 million bushels. This would give a total crop of 1,293 million bushels in 1952. With a crop of this size plus a prospective 250 million bushel old-crop carry-over on July 1, 1952 and likely imports from Canada of about 40 million bushels of feed-quality wheat, the total 1952-53 wheat supply in this country would be about 1,580 million bushels. This supply would be near-record in size, exceeded only in the 1942-43 and 1943-44 crop years. Farm prices of wheat in 1952-53 may average about the same per bushel as a year earlier, and retail prices of the food products made from this grain are expected to continue at about the present levels.

Rye supplies during the current marketing year are estimated at 29 million bushels, smaller than the 34 million bushels in 1950-51. Carry-over stocks on July 1, 1952 may amount to about 5 million bushels, about the same as a year earlier. Current prospects are for a rye supply in 1952-53 of about 26 million bushels, or about 3 million bushels smaller than in the preceding marketing year, and adequate to meet the anticipated domestic and export needs. As of May 1, production was estimated at about 18 million bushels. The farm price of rye may average slightly higher than in 1951-52, but the retail prices of the food products utilizing rye may average little or no higher.

Domestic supplies of rice in the current marketing year, totaling about 31 million hundred-weight (milled basis, excluding brewers' rice), are about 16 percent greater than a year earlier and the largest on record. Food use by U. S. civilians appears to be at the rate of about 5.8 pounds per capita, the same as in 1950-51, but exports will exceed the record 1949-50 total of about 10 million hundred-weight. Consequently, the carry-over stocks into the 1952-53 marketing period may be the smallest since 1949.

Farmers' planting intentions as of March indicated that about 1.97 million acres would be seeded in rice, virtually the same as in 1951. If intended plantings materialize and yields per acre, by States, equal the 1946-50 average, the 1952 domestic rice crop would amount to about 28 million hundred-weight (milled basis), only 2 percent under last year's output. On the basis of production and old-crop carry-over prospects, supplies in 1952-53 are expected to be adequate to cover the expected domestic and export requirements.

Stocks of feed grains (corn, oats, and barley) available for distribution from now until the 1952 feed grain crops are harvested are considerably smaller than a year earlier. Commercial supplies, however, are expected to be fully adequate to meet food and industrial needs. Even through utilization of feed grains in the last half of the season may be a little smaller than a year earlier, carry-over stocks at the end of the 1951-52 season are expected to be substantially smaller than in any of the preceding 3 years.

The total feed grain supply for 1952-53, based on early indications, is expected to be a little smaller than in 1951-52. Since total requirements will be about as large as in the preceding year, feed supplies are expected to continue relatively short in 1952-53. Based on farmers' intentions earlier this year, the prospective acreage to be planted in corn in 1952 is about the same as last year, while the prospective oats acreage is 3 percent larger and the barley acreage is down about 10 percent. If weather and other conditions affecting the growth of crops are about the same as the average for recent years, the production of these 3 feed grains would total about 116 million tons, 6 percent larger than in 1951. However, with old-crop carry-over stocks likely to be substantially smaller than a year earlier, the total supply of these feed grains would be a little smaller than in 1951-52.

Retail prices of the food products made from corn, oats and barley are currently above those of a year earlier, and are expected to continue higher than last year through the coming summer months. Prices during the latter half of 1952 and into next year will depend to a considerable extent on the size of the 1952 feed grain crops, especially of corn. If this year's crops are no larger than currently indicated, farm prices of feed grains probably will continue above the support level, as they have during 1951-52.

Sugar

Preliminary reports indicate that primary distributors marketed a total of 2,622 thousand short tons of sugar (raw basis) to domestic consumers--civilians and military agencies--during the first 4 months of 1952. This was about 16 percent more than was distributed in the same period of 1951, with all of the increase occurring during March and April. Domestic marketings in January and February totaled 7 percent below the unusually large quantities moved in the same months of 1951. Compared with a year earlier, primary distribution in March was about 62 percent larger and marketings in April were up about 20 percent. Prospects are that domestic sales by primary distributors in the remainder of the second quarter of 1952 probably will not equal that of a year earlier although, conforming to the pattern of recent years, they may exceed sales in the first quarter of this year.

The prospective acreage to be planted in sugar beets this year is 747 thousand acres, almost 2 percent smaller than the acreage planted in 1951 and 10 percent smaller than the 10-year (1941-50) average. If the yields this year approximate the average for 1946-50, by States, on the intended acreage, total production of sugar beets would be about 9,526 thousand tons, compared with 10,584 thousand tons last year. The prospective 10 percent decline in sugar beet production will have little effect on domestic supplies of sugar this year, since marketings of sugar from 1952 crop beets will not begin until late in the year. The quantity of sugar in the offshore producing areas supplying the United States is larger this year than last.

The sugar marketing quota for 1952 has been established at 7,700 thousand tons (raw value), about equal to the quantity marketed in the continental United States last year by primary distributors but almost 4 percent smaller than the estimated total domestic disappearance of about 8,000 thousand tons. The quota was set at this quantity in order to encourage prices of raw and refined sugar to rise to the level necessary to fairly and equitably maintain the domestic sugar industry. Military purchases of sugar in 1952 for use by members of the armed forces at home and abroad probably will be somewhat higher than last year. Thus, on the basis of the current marketing quota, the supply per capita is somewhat less than in 1951.

The retail price of refined sugar in large cities during January-March averaged 10.1 cents per pound (in 5 pound units), according to reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, slightly higher than for the same period last year. The downward movement in retail sugar prices, which began last fall, was checked in April.

ESTIMATED USE OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES IN THE MANUFACTURE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Substantial quantities of some agricultural commodities are used in the production of alcoholic beverages. Estimates of utilization in the years 1936-51 are presented in tables 5 and 6.. In order to indicate the relative importance of the alcoholic beverage industry as an outlet for selected agricultural commodities, utilization has been compared with the corresponding total domestic production in table 7.

Table 5 - Estimated use of selected agricultural commodities in the manufacture of distilled spirits for beverage use, 1936-51 1/

Year ending June 30	Corn	Rye	Barley	Grapes 2/	Wheat	Grain sorghums
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	1,000 tons	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.
1936	32	13	6	35	-	-
1937	36	12	6	37	-	-
1938	20	6	4	42	-	-
1939	18	6	5	22	-	-
1940	19	6	5	24	-	-
1941	3/ 22	3/ 7	3/ 6	30	-	-
1942	4/ 27	4/ 5	4/ 7	32	-	-
1943 5/	4/ 3	4/ 1	4/ 1	24	-	-
1944 5/	-	-	-	28	-	-
1945 5/	4/ 6	4/ 4	4/ 4	40	6/ 10	6/ 2
1946 6/	21	8	12	42	11	7
1947 6/	40	4	12	26	-	2
1948 6/	25	6	9	28	1	6
1949 6/	30	7	9	30	1	2
1950 6/	27	5	7	38	-	-
1951 6/	45	8	13	39	1	11

1/ Derived from annual reports of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.
2/ Including raisins; excluding grape concentrates produced in still wine industry and used by distillers in production of brandy.
3/ Includes use by industrial alcohol plants because most alcohol produced from these materials went into alcoholic beverages.
4/ Rough estimates of grain for beverage use based on analysis of use in registered distilleries and industrial alcohol plants by states and by months.
5/ No production of spirits for beverage use, except brandy and rum, after October 8, 1942, except for August 1944 and January 1945 when restrictions on production were temporarily lifted.
6/ Industrial alcohol plants' production of alcohol for beverage use approximately offset by registered distilleries' production of spirits for industrial use, so includes only commodities used by the latter.

Table 6 - Estimated use of selected agricultural commodities in the manufacture of fermented malt liquors and still wine, 1936-51 1/

Year ending June 30	Fermented malt liquors				Still wines
	Corn	Barley 2/	Rice	Hops 3/	Grapes 4/
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 tons
1936	8	52	116	34	5/
1937	8	58	231	37	5/
1938	7	55	260	35	5/
1939	7	52	198	32	890
1940	8	52	189	32	800
1941	8	52	204	31	1,063
1942	10	60	171	34	1,149
1943	13	64	152	35	655
1944	16	71	186	36	859
1945	17	69	215	37	983
1946	14	67	241	38	1,236
1947	13	74	172	40	1,721
1948	14	82	302	42	1,021
1949	15	81	300	40	1,408
1950	15	80	321	38	1,082
1951	16	79	339	36	1,349

1/ Derived from annual reports of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.
2/ Including barley equivalent of malt.
3/ Including small quantities of hop extracts.
4/ Including grape equivalent of raisins and grape juice. Part of the output of the still wine industry from these grapes goes to distillers for use in making brandy.
5/ Not available.

Table 7.- Estimated total use of selected agricultural commodities in the manufacture of alcoholic beverages, compared with production in the preceding crop year, 1936-51 1/

Year ending June 30	Corn		Rye		Barley		Wheat		Grain sorghums		Rice 2/		Hops		Grapes	
	Use	Percentage of production	Use	Percentage of production	Use	Percentage of production	Use	Percentage of production	Use	Percentage of production	Use	Percentage of production	Use	Percentage of production	Use	Percentage of production
	Mil. bu.	Pct.	Mil. bu.	Pct.	Mil. bu.	Pct.	Mil. bu.	Pct.	Mil. bu.	Pct.	Mil. lb.	Pct.	Mil. lb.	Pct.	1,000 tons	Pct.
1936	40	2	13	23	58	20	-	-	-	-	116	6	34	74	3/	-
1937	44	3	12	50	64	43	-	-	-	-	231	11	37	140	3/	-
1938	27	1	6	12	59	26	-	-	-	-	260	9	35	80	3/	-
1939	25	1	6	11	57	22	-	-	-	-	198	7	32	91	912	34
1940	27	1	6	15	57	20	-	-	-	-	189	8	32	86	824	34
1941	30	1	7	18	58	19	-	-	-	-	204	8	31	74	1,093	44
1942	37	2	5	11	67	18	-	-	-	-	171	7	34	85	1,181	43
1943	16	1	1	2	65	15	-	-	-	-	152	5	35	100	679	28
1944	16	1	-	-	71	22	1	4/	-	-	186	6	36	86	887	30
1945	23	1	4	17	73	26	11	1	4	2	215	7	37	77	1,023	38
1946	35	1	8	33	79	30	12	1	10	10	241	7	38	67	1,278	46
1947	53	2	4	21	86	33	-	-	4	4	172	4	40	75	1,747	55
1948	39	2	6	23	91	32	1	4/	7	7	302	9	42	84	1,049	35
1949	45	1	7	27	90	28	1	4/	2	2	300	7	40	80	1,438	47
1950	42	1	5	27	87	37	-	-	-	-	321	7	38	75	1,120	42
1951	61	2	8	38	92	30	1	4/	11	5	339	9	36	62	1,388	51

1/ Data on use derived from tables 5 and 6.
2/ Quantity used is in terms of rice product (brewers' rice and low-grade table rice). Percentage of production is derived as percent of total value of all rice, valuing rice used in fermented malt liquors at price of brewers' rice.
3/ Not available.
4/ Neglibible.

Table 8.- Planted acreage of major crops, 1935-39 average, 1951, prospective plantings for 1952, with percentage comparisons

Crop	Planted acreage		1952 goals	Prospective plantings 1952 1/	Prospective 1952 as percentage of		
	1935-39	1951			1935-39	1951	1952 goal
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Corn, all	97,044	83,866	89,000	83,928	86	100	94
Wheat, all	73,236	78,059	77,940	78,255	107	100	100
Winter	51,577	55,802	---	56,257	109	101	--
Spring, all	21,659	22,257	---	21,998	102	99	--
Oats	40,591	41,594	41,600	42,818	105	103	103
Barley	13,365	10,840	12,865	9,752	73	90	76
Flaxseed	1,938	4,114	4,000	3,935	203	96	98
Rice	1,007	1,981	1,950	1,971	196	99	101
All sorghums	15,254	15,113	15,200	13,442	88	89	88
Potatoes	3,123	1,379	1,475	1,373	44	100	93
Sweetpotatoes	804	316	472	334	42	105	71
Beans, dry edible	1,917	1,523	1,620	1,414	74	93	87
Soybeans, for beans 2/	3,042	13,211	13,000	3/13,761	452	104	106
Soybeans, grown alone 4/	7,262	14,838	---	15,457	213	104	--
Hay, all 2/	67,940	74,718	5/74,663	75,380	111	101	101
Total 6/	319,261	326,714	333,785	326,363	102	100	98
Tobacco	1,647	1,782	---	1,804	110	101	--
Peas, dry field	281	323	---	267	95	83	--
Peanuts, picked and threshed 2/	1,659	1,990	---	7/ 1,790	108	90	--
Peanuts, grown alone 4/	2,173	2,593	---	2,158	99	83	--
Sugar beets	891	759	---	747	84	98	--
Total 8/	323,739	331,568	---	330,971	102	100	--

1/ From March 1952 Prospective Plantings Report and December 19, 1951 Winter Wheat and Rye Report.
2/ Harvested acreage.
3/ 1952 indicated solid equivalent acreage adjusted for the percentage harvested for beans by using the 1950-51 average percentages, by States.
4/ For all purposes.
5/ Tame hay goal plus BAE 1951 acreage of wild hay in the 21 States where estimated.
6/ Total for those crops on which goals were established for 1952.
7/ Assuming the usual relationship of acreages planted alone to acreages for picking and threshing, by States.
8/ Includes "Soybeans, for beans" and "Peanuts, picked and threshed".

Table 9.- Prospective and actual acreages planted in major crops, 1949-51, with percentage comparisons 1/

Crop	1949			1950			1951		
	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Corn, all	84,809	86,745	102	82,765	82,858	100	85,694	83,866	98
Spring wheat	20,300	22,728	112	19,727	18,888	96	21,850	22,257	102
Oats	44,506	43,318	97	47,964	45,464	95	44,191	41,594	94
Barley	11,885	11,132	94	13,879	13,100	94	11,413	10,840	95
Flaxseed	4,713	5,348	113	4,027	4,274	106	3,921	4,114	105
Rice	1,753	1,883	107	1,645	1,632	99	1,931	1,981	103
All sorghums	12,144	11,064	91	14,568	16,050	110	12,540	15,113	121
Potatoes	1,980	1,778	90	1,862	1,712	92	1,590	1,379	87
Sweetpotatoes	489	478	98	603	502	83	444	316	71
Tobacco 2/	1,596	1,623	102	1,582	1,600	101	1,745	1,782	102
Beans, dry edible	1,834	1,936	106	1,678	1,656	99	1,664	1,523	92
Peas, dry field	409	383	94	281	256	91	244	323	132
Soybeans 3/	11,278	11,872	105	13,500	15,129	112	13,772	14,838	108
Peanuts 3/	3,175	2,765	87	2,570	2,668	104	2,614	2,593	99
All hay 2/	4/73,718	71,464	97	4/75,091	74,368	99	4/75,656	74,718	99
Sugar beets	766	768	100	980	1,014	103	887	759	86
Total	275,355	275,285	100	282,722	281,171	99	280,156	277,996	99

1/ Based on the prospective planted acreages indicated by farmers' reported March 1 intentions.
2/ Acreage harvested.
3/ Grown alone for all purposes.
4/ Includes wild hay harvested in 21 Western States, to be comparable with actual acreage data.

Table 10.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and preliminary indications for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1950	1951 Prel.	Prel. indications for 1952 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Meats (carcass weight)							
Beef	Mil.lb.	6,937	9,538	8,843	9,600	138	109
Veal	do.	1,038	1,230	1,061	1,100	106	104
Lamb and mutton	do.	870	597	522	600	69	115
Pork (excluding lard)	do.	7,337	10,714	11,483	11,200	153	98
Total meats	do.	16,182	22,079	21,909	22,500	139	103
Fish (edible weight)							
Fresh and frozen	do.	615	760	770	3/	-	-
Canned 4/	do.	337	643	470	3/	-	-
Cured	do.	74	63	63	3/	-	-
Total fish	do.	1,026	1,466	1,303	3/	-	-
Poultry and eggs							
Eggs	Mil.doz	3,335	5,384	5,441	5,725	172	105
Chickens (dr. wt.)	Mil.lb.	2,327	4,061	4,557	4,850	208	106
Turkey (dr. wt.)	do.	350	736	836	925	264	111
Dairy products							
Total milk 5/	Bil.lb.	106.4	117.6	116.5	115.8	109	99
Cheese 6/	Mil.lb.	669	1,193	1,158	1,135	170	98
Cond. and evap. milk	do.	2,225	3,205	3,223	3,050	137	95
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	do.	2,170	1,648	1,464	1,450	67	99
Lard 7/	do.	1,630	2,631	2,864	2,850	175	100
Margarine (fat content)	do.	303	764	845)			
Shortening	do.	1,529	1,710	1,404)	4,321	180	98
Other edible fats and oils 8/	do.	575	1,667	2,179)			
Total fats and oils 9/		6,207	8,420	8,756	8,621	139	98
Fruits							
Fresh:							
Citrus	do.	6,875	10/6,754	10/7,622	10/7,600	111	100
Apples (commercial)	do.	4,385	10/3,848	10/3,550	10/3,650	83	103
Other (excl. melons)	do.	4,703	10/4,192	10/5,000	10/4,900	104	98
Processed:							
Canned fruit	do.	1,705	2,716	3,116	2,800	164	90
Canned fruit juices	do.	333	2,078	2,450	1,950	586	80
Frozen (incl. juice)	do.	106	785	802	900	849	112
Dried	do.	1,118	739	933	3/	-	-

- Continued

Table 10.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and preliminary indications for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/ Cont.

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1950	1951 Prel.	Prel. indications for 1952 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Vegetables							
Fresh 11/	Mil.lb.	30,520	10/38,794	10/38,944	10/38,750	127	100
Canned 12/	do.	4,030	5,905	7,812	7,000	174	90
Frozen	do.	13/ 78	587	770	700	897	91
Potatoes	Mil.bu.	355	430	326	334	94	102
Sweetpotatoes	do.	68	50	28	32	47	114
Dry edible beans 14/	Mil.lb.	1,360	1,513	1,600	1,380	101	86
Dry field peas 14/	do.	229	295	348	275	120	79
Canned baby foods	do.	48	547	503	550	1,146	109
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 sh.tons	1,948	2,460	2,042	2,300	118	113
Grains							
Wheat	Mil.bu.	759	1,019	987	1,293	170	131
Rye	do.	44.9	21.3	21.4	17.8	40	83
Rice, milled	Mil.lb.	1,340	2,644	2,522	2,856	213	113
Corn, grain only	Mil.bu.	2,050	2,760	2,653	2,900	141	109
Oats	do.	1,045	1,410	1,316	1,330	127	101
Barley	do.	239	304	255	235	98	92
Peanuts, farmers' stock basis	Mil.lb.	1,229	2,022	1,595	3/	-	-

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; rice on a marketing year. 2/ Preliminary indications based on trends in livestock numbers, current or prospective rates of output, average or probable acreages and yields, and such other data or advance estimates as are available. These estimates are used only to indicate the general level of food supplies for domestic consumption for 1952, but they are based on such official estimates as are available at this time. Revisions will of course be made from time to time throughout the year as official indications or estimates are issued through the Crop Reporting Service of the Department. 3/ Not available. 4/ Excludes canned food products containing small quantities of fish such as clam chowder, etc. 5/ These estimates include farm production of milk as reported by the Crop Reporting Board in "Farm Production, Disposition, and Income from Milk, 1950-51" (April 1952) and a tentative allowance for nonfarm production of 2.8 billion pounds in 1935-39, 1.0 in 1950, .9 in 1951, and .8 billion pounds in 1952. 6/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot and bakers' cheese. 7/ Including amount used in manufactured food and nonfood products. 8/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other minor uses such as fish canning. 9/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 10/ Unrevised for results of the 1950 Census of Agriculture. 11/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 12/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, tomato juice, and tomato sauce, paste and catsup and chili sauce, mixed vegetables. 13/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 14/ Cleaned basis.

Table 11.- Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, 1940-50 and 1951-52 by months

(Index numbers 1935-39=100)

Year and month	Meats 1/	Eggs	Dairy products 2/	Fats and oils 3/	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables: Fresh	Fruit and vegetables: Canned	Fruit and vegetables: Dried	Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
1940	96	94	101	82	97	97	92	101	97	92	97	100
1941	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	106	105
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	126	122	124	117
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	177	130	166	126	124	136	126
1945	131	164	134	124	109	188	130	168	126	125	139	129
1946	161	169	165	152	125	191	141	190	144	140	160	140
1947	217	201	186	198	155	202	166	264	180	187	194	160
1948	246	209	205	196	171	212	158	247	174	205	210	172
1949	233	201	187	148	170	219	153	227	176	221	202	170
1950	244	174	185	144	173	206	146	229	180	313	204	172
1951	272	211	206	169	188	223	166	250	187	344	227	186
Jan.	264	192	203	172	185	220	161	253	186	341	222	182
Feb.	270	180	204	176	187	233	165	257	186	343	226	184
Mar.	272	195	205	177	188	221	167	257	186	343	226	184
Apr.	273	191	204	178	188	216	169	258	186	344	226	185
May	273	198	204	177	188	226	170	257	185	345	227	185
June	272	201	204	175	188	224	170	254	186	345	227	185
July	273	212	205	169	189	222	170	251	188	345	228	186
Aug.	275	226	206	163	189	209	166	248	188	345	227	186
Sept.	276	239	206	162	189	204	164	246	188	345	227	187
Oct.	277	243	208	161	189	214	163	241	187	346	229	187
Nov.	274	242	210	158	190	235	163	238	187	347	231	189
Dec.	270	217	213	158	190	255	163	239	186	347	232	189
1952												
Jan.	272	184	216	155	191	263	163	239	186	347	232	189
Feb.	271	166	217	151	191	235	164	238	185	347	228	188
Mar.	268	161	216	146	191	248	164	236	184	347	228	188
Apr.	267	166	213	143	191	273	164	237	186	347	230	189

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The consumer price index is adjusted for "new unit bias" in rents beginning 1940; in addition, beginning 1950 all series are adjusted for expanded commodity coverage and revisions in both commodity and population weights. Detailed description of the adjustments are published in the April 1951 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

1/ Includes chicken and fish.

2/ Includes butter.

3/ Excludes butter.

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FOR RELEASE
AUG. 7, A.M.

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-61 BAE JULY – SEPTEMBER 1952

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, July 29, 1952

SUMMARY

Food supplies for domestic consumption in the remaining months of 1952 are expected to be as plentiful as a year earlier, according to mid-year reports on crop and livestock production and on stocks. Prospects for crop and livestock output as of July 1 add up to a slight increase in over-all food production compared with 1951. The gain will come principally from slightly larger marketings of poultry products and beef and veal and larger crops of wheat and rice. But this increase will be about offset by the gain in our population.

Prospective supplies and strong consumer demand point to some increase over the second half of 1951 in the per capita consumption of beef and veal, turkey, fluid milk, margarine, shortening, frozen fruit juices, fresh peaches, canned and frozen vegetables. On the other hand, somewhat less pork, manufactured dairy products including butter, some fresh and processed fruit, and sugar are likely to be taken per person.

During the next few months, military takings of food probably will be at about the same over-all rate as late last summer and fall, though there will be shifts among items. Foreign trade in food commodities is likely to run below that of a year earlier. Some decrease in net exports is expected to result from the improved food situation abroad and the continued shortage of dollar exchange.

Slightly higher costs of processing and marketing, continued strong consumer demand, and seasonal changes in supplies might bring about a slight upward movement in retail prices of food.

Marketing Research Report No. 3
Eating Places as Marketers of Food Products is available on request.

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1941, 1950, 1951 and preliminary estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1941	1950	1951	1952 Prel. 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Food grains 3/	131	148	145	181	125
Truck crops 4/	116	147	161	148	92
Fruits and nuts 5/	113	126	126	123	98
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 6/	100	113	89	90	101
Sugar crops 7/	97	112	88	88	100
Total food crops 8/	116	134	128	136	106
Meat animals 9/	117	138	143	148	103
Poultry 10/	120	179	191	204	107
Dairy products 11/	110	113	112	111	99
Total food livestock	115	138	142	147	104
Food production	115	137	139	144	104
Agricultural production, food and nonfood	113	135	140	145	104
Civilian per capita food consumption	109	111	111	112	101

1/ Beginning with 1950, the data for most commodities have been revised to reflect changes in estimates of production which incorporated benchmark data from the 1950 Census of Agriculture. Revisions for the years 1945-49 are not yet complete. 2/ Production estimates for 1952 are based on preliminary crop indications as of July 1 and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products. 3/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat. 4/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes). 5/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts. 6/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes. 7/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup. 8/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops. 9/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs. 10/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers. 11/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Total food utilization: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average, 1940-44 and 1950-52 1/

Year	Total food utilization	Source of total food: Food production	Imports	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Distribution: Civilian	Military, including military civilian feeding	Department of Agriculture 2/: Net purchases	Deliveries	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Commercial exports and shipments 3/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Section a. Percentage of food utilization in each year												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	100.0	95.1	5.5		.6	98.0						2.0
1941	100.0	94.4	5.8		.2	93.8	2.0	2.4	1.9		.5	1.8
1942	100.0	94.2	3.7	2.1		87.2	5.8	5.9	4.5		1.4	1.1
1943	100.0	95.8	4.8		.6	81.4	9.6	8.1	7.1		1.0	.9
1944	100.0	94.0	5.0	1.0		79.7	13.2	6.0	6.5	.5		1.1
....												
1950	100.0	95.0	5.3		.3	93.0	4/2.0	1.7	1.5		.2	3.3
1951	100.0	94.7	5.1	.2		89.8	4/3.9	1.2	1.9	.7		5.1
1952 Prel.	100.0	95.0	4.7	.3		90.5	4/3.9	.9	1.2	.3		4.7
Section b. Percentage of 1935-39 food utilization												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	109.6	104.2	6.0		.6	107.4						2.2
1941	114.4	108.0	6.7		.3	107.3	2.3	2.7	2.2		.5	2.1
1942	125.6	118.3	4.7	2.6		109.5	7.3	7.4	5.6		1.8	1.4
1943	131.3	125.8	6.3		.8	106.9	12.7	10.6	9.3		1.3	1.1
1944	139.9	131.5	7.0	1.4		111.4	18.4	8.5	9.1	.6		1.6
....												
1950	135.4	128.6	7.2		.4	126.0	4/2.7	2.3	2.0		.3	4.4
1951	137.8	130.5	7.0	.3		123.8	4/5.4	1.6	2.6	1.0		7.0
1952 Prel.	142.3	135.2	6.7	.4		128.8	4/5.5	1.3	1.8	.5		6.7

1/ Beginning with 1950, the data for most commodities have been revised to reflect changes in estimates of production which incorporated benchmark data from the 1950 Census of Agriculture. Revisions for the years 1945-49 are not yet complete. The upper section of the table divides the utilization in each year (1) according to the source of the food and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total utilization figures and the break-down are on an index number basis, that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The utilization figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower section contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food utilization in 1935-39 instead of total utilization each year. 2/ The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are food for lend-lease, relief, and purchases for foreign governments, except meat transactions in the drought years. These quantities are measured (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks are included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. When Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased, stocks were built up; and vice versa. 3/ For the war years, these data indicate the commercial portion of exports and shipments, which is total exports and shipments minus the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture. 4/ Including procurement for relief feeding in areas occupied by our armed forces.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES

The BLS index of retail food prices in large cities in the first half of 1952 averaged about 2 percent higher than a year earlier. Most of the rise in the index over a year ago was due to increases in the prices of fresh fruits and vegetables this spring. Indications for the remainder of 1952 are that retail food prices may average somewhat higher than those of a year earlier and slightly above the level of this past spring. Continued large food supplies in prospect will have a stabilizing influence on food prices, although a slight upward movement is possible. Price controls on processed fruits and vegetables have recently been terminated in accordance with the provisions of the amended Defense Production Act of 1950.

General economic activity, influenced by the continuing expansion in production for the defense effort and by the gradual rise in the total demand for goods and services, is expected to maintain employment at a record high level and to result in some further increase in consumer disposable income.

Retail prices of consumer goods and services, in general, may drift upward during the coming months of the year. The supply of most consumer items is large, but consumer expenditures thus far in 1952 have been expanding at a relatively faster rate than has disposable personal income. The prospects are that this pattern will continue during the remainder of the year. Most of the increase in expenditures has been for services and nondurable goods, including food.

The change in the rate of consumer savings this year has reflected the increase in expenditures. In the first half of 1952, personal savings averaged about 7.5 percent of disposable personal income, compared with the rate of approximately 9 percent which prevailed during most of the last three quarters of last year. Some of the savings in 1951 and this year has gone into insurance and investment in various forms of property, and thus is not immediately available for the purchase of consumer goods. However, a large part of the savings is in the more liquid forms--i.e., currency, bank deposits, and savings and loan shares. Consumer credit outstanding in the first half of 1952 was not much different from a year earlier. New consumer credit granted was about offset by repayments of outstanding debt.

The impact of military procurement of food and of exports on retail food prices during the remainder of this year will be somewhat smaller than last year. Military takings are not expected to be much different than in the latter part of 1951. Exports, however, probably will be somewhat smaller. Current indications point to a larger output of food this year than last in many areas which have been dependent upon the United States for an important part of their food supply, especially of grains, during recent years. In addition, the relative shortage of dollar exchange abroad will tend to restrict the volume of food purchases from this country.

Table 3.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951, and preliminary estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

(Primary distribution weight)

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel.	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent
Meats (carcass weight)-Total	126.2	143.5	137.7	140	111	102
Beef	55.2	63.0	56.1	60	109	107
Veal	8.1	8.0	6.6	7	86	106
Lamb and mutton	6.8	3.9	3.4	3.8	56	112
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	68.6	71.6	69	123	96
Fish (edible weight)-Total	11.1	11.5	11.5	11.4	103	99
Fresh and frozen	5.3	6.3	6.4	2/	---	---
Canned 3/	4.8	4.3	4.2	2/	---	---
Cured	1.0	.9	.9	2/	---	---
Poultry products						
Eggs-number	298	386	397	406	136	102
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	26.4	28.8	30.3	169	105
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	4.9	5.2	5.8	223	112
Dairy products						
Cheese	5.5	7.7	7.2	7.5	136	104
Condensed and evaporated milk	16.7	20.0	18.1	18.2	109	101
Fluid milk and cream	340	4/385	4/395	4/400	118	101
Ice cream (product weight)	9.5	16.1	16.1	16.2	171	101
Fats and oils-Total, fat content 5/	44.7	45.4	41.9	43.5	97	104
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	10.7	9.7	8.9	53	92
Lard	11.0	12.1	12.2	12.2	111	100
Margarine (actual weight)	2.9	6.1	6.5	7.7	266	118
Shortening	11.7	11.0	9.0	10.0	85	111
Other edible fats and oils	6.3	8.8	7.6	7.9	125	104
Fruits						
Fresh:						
Citrus	48.9	4/40.9	4/44.7	4/44	90	98
Apples (commercial)	30.4	23.1	25.6	23	76	90
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	46.1	47.4	47	79	99
Processed:						
Canned fruit	14.9	20.9	18.8	19.7	132	105
Canned juices	3.9	13.8	14.8	13.8	354	93
Frozen (including juices)	.8	4.3	4.7	5.4	675	115
Dried	5.8	4.3	4.6	4.5	78	98
Vegetables						
Fresh	235	4/252	4/254	4/247	105	97
Canned	29.9	41.8	41.4	41.2	138	100
Frozen	6/ .4	3.3	4.1	4.2	1,050	102
Potatoes	131	104	104	103	79	99
Sweetpotatoes	21.4	12.8	6.5	7.6	36	117
Dry edible beans	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.4	95	100
Dry field peas	.6	.7	.7	.7	117	100
Sugar, refined	97.0	95.5	96.3	7/91-96	96	97
Grains						
Corn products:						
Corn meal	22.9	13.5	13.2	13	57	98
Corn sirup	7.6	9.1	9.0	9.0	118	100
Corn starch	1.3	1.9	1.9	1.9	146	100
Corn sugar	2.7	4.5	4.1	4.0	148	98
Breakfast cereals	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	94	100
Hominy	1.4	2.7	2.5	2.5	179	100
Oatmeal	3.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	77	100
Barley food products 8/	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	114	100
Wheat:						
Flour 9/	159	133	133	133	84	100
Breakfast cereals	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	89	100
Rye flour	2.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	73	100
Rice, milled	5.6	5.0	5.8	5.9	105	102
Beverages						
Coffee 10/	14.0	16.1	16.4	16.4	117	100
Tea	.67	.60	.67	.64	96	96
Cocoa beans	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.0	91	100
Peanuts (shelled)	4.3	4.4	4.4	2/	---	---

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel not eationg out of civilian supplies.

1/ Quantity in pounds except for eggs which are stated in number. Data on calendar year basis except for dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; fresh citrus fruits, dry field peas and peanuts on a crop year basis; rice on August 1 year; and canned fruit and vegetables on pack year basis in 1935-39. All years begin in year indicated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year.

2/ Not available.

3/ Excludes canned food products containing small quantities of fish such as clam chowder, etc.

4/ Unrevised for results of 1950 Census of Agriculture.

5/ Computed from unrounded data.

6/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available.

7/ Based on the U. S. domestic requirements of 7,700 thousand tons (raw value) as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

8/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent.

9/ Includes white, whole wheat, and semolina flour.

10/ Green bean basis.

NUTRITIONAL REVIEW 1/

Per capita supplies of nutrients available to civilians for consumption in 1952 are expected to remain at about last year's high level. Thus the current rate of civilian food consumption will maintain the high quality of American diets, although somewhat below the 1946 record high. Compared with consumption in the prewar years (1935-39), 1952 consumption of foods that are important sources of major nutrients--dairy products, fruits and vegetables, meats, poultry, and fish--will be notably higher. Also, enrichment of grain products will continue to help safeguard diets with respect to iron and three of the B vitamins.

Table 4.- Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and preliminary estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

Nutrients	Units	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel.	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Food energy	Cal.	3,280	3,270	3,250	3,250	99	100
Protein	Grams	89	94	95	96	108	101
Fat	Grams	132	146	141	145	110	103
Carbohydrate	Grams	431	399	403	397	92	99
Calcium	Grams	.94	1.06	1.07	1.08	115	101
Iron	Mg.	13.6	16.3	16.4	16.5	121	101
Vitamin A value	I.U.	8,100	8,500	8,000	8,000	99	100
Thiamine	Mg.	1.43	1.90	1.93	1.94	136	101
Riboflavin	Mg.	1.86	2.35	2.36	2.38	128	101
Niacin	Mg.	15.2	19.0	18.8	19.0	125	101
Ascorbic acid	Mg.	115	117	118	118	103	100

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption from urban gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss or waste in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food. Deductions have been made for inedible refuse. The data for 1950-52 for iron, thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to prepared cereals, bread and white flour.

1/ Prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meat

Meat supplies in prospect for the second half of 1952 probably will total a little larger than a year earlier. Because of the population increase during the year, however, civilians are likely to have only about as much meat per person as in July-December 1951. Since consumption during the first half of 1952 was somewhat larger than a year earlier, civilian takings for the year as a whole may exceed by about 2 pounds the 1951 rate of 138 pounds per capita. Prospects are for retail meat prices during the remainder of the year to continue generally a little below those in the same months of 1951. The seasonal decline in the latter part of the year is likely to more nearly approach the usual seasonal downturn than in the same part of 1951, when meat prices held relatively high.

Although civilian consumption of meat per capita during the rest of 1952 will be about equal to that of a year earlier, it will differ somewhat in composition. Consumers will have more beef and veal per person, but this increase will be in large part offset by the decline in pork. Lamb and mutton consumption is not expected to be much different than in the same part of 1951.

Meat production in 1952 is expected to total about 3 percent above the 21.9 billion pounds of a year earlier. Most of the increase will be in beef. Pork output will total a little less than in 1951, as increases in the first 4 months of this year will not equal the decreases during the last 8 months. Most of the expansion in meat production occurred during the first half of 1952, and was reflected in all the general types of meat. In the second half of the year, output may be only slightly above that in July-December 1951 because of the prospective decline in hog slaughter.

Supplies of pork were large earlier this year and, as a surplus removal measure, the Department of Agriculture in April and May purchased about 26.5 million pounds of pork products. These commodities will be distributed to the National School Lunch Program and other eligible outlets beginning this fall.

Civilian consumption of beef and veal during the second half of 1952 will be larger than a year earlier because of the probable increase in the number of cattle and calves slaughtered. The increase in slaughter this fall is expected to be larger than usual, but is not likely to prevent a continued expansion in animal numbers. The prospective cattle marketing pattern could be materially altered if dry weather adversely affects pasture conditions in general, causing farmers in important producing areas to reduce their herds more than now appears likely.

Increases from last year in cattle marketings the rest of 1952 will likely be greater for grass-fat animals than for fed cattle. As a result, supplies of the intermediate grades of beef will be comparatively larger than those of the higher grades that are obtained from grain-fed cattle. Nevertheless, slaughter of grain-fed cattle can be unusually large about September and October if farmers carry out their marketing plans indicated on July 1. On that date 13 percent more

cattle were on feed in the Corn Belt than at the same time last year. A large part of the increase consisted of long fed cattle that are due to be marketed in early fall; the remainder was of young stock recently placed on feed and not likely to be marketed until 1953.

The decline in pork supplies during the remainder of the year will result from the 9 percent smaller spring-pig crop than in 1951. During early fall hog slaughter may be reduced more than the smaller spring-pig crop would indicate. If feed production this year is favorable and feed prices decline from present levels, farmers may market a smaller proportion of their hogs early in the season than last year. However, as farrowings averaged earlier this spring than last, marketings may be concentrated more at mid-season than last fall and winter.

Sheep and lamb slaughter during the second half of 1952 probably will be larger than a year earlier, but the increase will be smaller than that of the first half of 1952.

Retail meat prices in the remainder of the year are expected to follow the seasonal pattern of strengthening during the summer and declining during the fall. Current retail prices for most meats are below those of a year earlier and as a group probably will continue so. However, because of reduced supplies, the prices of several types of pork cuts will probably increase toward the higher ceilings temporarily established for the usual high-price season extending to October. Beef and veal prices during the rest of this year are expected to continue below a year earlier. For the better cuts of beef, prices are likely to be closer to last year's level than will those of the lower grades. Retail prices of lamb, currently close to those of a year earlier, are not expected to show much change this summer and probably will decline this fall as marketings of sheep and lambs increase seasonally.

Fishery Products

Civilian consumption of edible fishery products in 1952 is expected to be about the same as the preceding year's rate. During the first half of this year, slight reductions in consumption were indicated for all major groups--fresh, frozen and canned--but some pick-up in civilian takings is in prospect after mid-summer. Retail prices for the year as a whole probably will be about equal to those for 1951. Through mid-year the index of retail prices for all fishery products was almost the same as that of a year earlier, according to reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The commercial catch of fish and shellfish has totaled somewhat smaller so far this year than in the same period of 1951. However, production activity is now at its seasonal peak, and will continue high until mid-fall. Prospects for the year as a whole point to a total output about as large as that of 1951. The commercial freezing of fishery products in the continental United States through mid-1952 has also been somewhat below a year earlier. On June 30, total freezings amounted to 112.4 million pounds, 2 percent smaller than the volume as of the same date last year. Commercial freezing operations will be seasonally large in the next 3 months.

Cold-storage holdings of frozen fishery products in the continental United States on June 30 totaled 130.2 million pounds, more than 20 percent larger than a year earlier and a record in size for that date. The quantity of fishery products in cold storage will continue to expand until late fall in order to build up supplies for distribution in the low production months next winter. Over the past few years, domestic demand for frozen fishery products has expanded. This has been accompanied by a definite upward trend in the quantity of these products held in storage, a sharp increase in commercial freezings and an increase in imports.

Trade reports indicate that civilians have taken smaller quantities of canned fishery products per person thus far this year than in the same part of 1951. Consumption of canned salmon and tuna was maintained at about the rate of a year earlier, but declines were apparent for Maine sardines and, to a lesser extent, California sardines (pilchards) and mackerel. Some seasonal increase will occur this summer, but the consumption rate per person probably will remain somewhat below that of a year earlier at least until early next fall when the present year's packs are moving to market in large volume.

Production of canned fishery products in 1952 is expected to total about the same as last year. Current indications are that there will be a much larger pack of Maine sardines, but output of many of the other popular species of canned fishery products may be a bit smaller than in 1951. Domestic supplies of canned fishery products may be supplemented by sizable imports of salmon from Canada. This year the United Kingdom, the largest export market for Canadian canned salmon, has indicated that she will not purchase any of this commodity from Canada.

Imports of fishery products probably will be larger this year than in 1951, but no noticeable expansion in exports is anticipated. Receipts of frozen products from abroad, especially of groundfish (cod, haddock, hake, pollock and cusk) and ocean perch fillets, may reach a record level in 1952. Through June, imports of groundfish and ocean perch fillets totaled 53.1 million pounds, more than 25 percent above the comparable 1951 total. Exports of canned fishery products thus far in 1952 have been impeded by the foreign trade restrictions and by the relatively short supplies of the types of products--for example, California sardines (pilchards) --which are popular abroad. There is no indication at this time that the situation will improve much this year.

Poultry and Eggs

New records in per capita consumption of poultry products are expected this year. Demand is strong and production of eggs, chicken, and turkey in 1952 is likely to exceed previous highs. Consumption of these products in the first half of the year was apparently of record proportions. More turkey probably will be consumed in July-December 1952 than a year earlier. The per capita rate of chicken consumption may approximate that of the second half of 1951. Egg consumption will be high for the season, but probably not up to the 1951 level for July-December.

Contributing to the large supplies of poultry meat in prospect for coming months are large stocks now in storage, the probable increase in the production of turkey over a year earlier, and marketings of chicken not much smaller than a year earlier. Stocks of chicken in cold storage on July 1 were larger than on July 1, 1951 and will be available to supplement current marketings. Broiler supplies are declining as the result of smaller chick placements but marketings of farm chickens are increasing seasonally.

Somewhat smaller production of eggs, increased supplies of turkeys and about unchanged supplies of chickens are expected to sell at prices not greatly different from last year's levels. Although egg prices in the first six months of 1952 were sharply lower than a year earlier, the seasonal increase late in June and early in July was faster than usual. Wholesale prices at mid-July were close to those of a year earlier.

During May and June, the Department of Agriculture conducted a surplus removal program for shell eggs. Under the program, 227,000 cases of eggs were bought for use later this year in School Lunches and other eligible outlets. The program ended at about the time the sharp seasonal price increase began.

The outlook for the next few months is for a seasonal egg price increase from the levels of late July. However, egg prices may not go quite as high as in 1951. Chicken prices in coming months are likely to continue at about present levels, which are somewhat lower than a year earlier.

Although the record of turkey hatchings to date suggests that the number of turkeys hatched this spring was about 13 percent larger than in 1951, the supply of turkeys for the last half of 1952 is not likely to increase by quite so high a percentage. This is because a somewhat higher proportion of the increase apparently has been in turkeys intended for marketing at light weights and without respect to season. Recent prices of this type of turkey have been so low as to be about comparable with the prices for heavy roasting chickens.

The prices of the heavier types of turkey which are marketed principally in the holiday season are not expected to reach last year's seasonal highs.

Dairy Products

Production of milk in the United States has been on a down trend since the fall of 1951. On an annual rate basis, farm production was 115.5 billion pounds in October-December 1951, 115.0 billion pounds in January-March 1952 and 113.1 billion pounds in April-June. Total farm production in 1951 was 115.5 billion pounds, and except for 1948, the lowest annual total since 1941. Because of unusually hot weather during June, milk flow dropped more than seasonally and for the month was at an annual rate of less than 112 billion pounds. Output will decline seasonally until early winter and is not likely to exceed the levels of a year earlier. For 1952 as a whole, production of milk on farms probably will be between 114 and 115 billion pounds.

The down-drift in milk output apparently results in part from the tighter feed-concentrate situation and less favorable pastures this year. Other influences which have been operating the last decade include relatively favorable returns from other farm enterprises and a decline in number of people who desire to milk cows. New data on number of milk cows on farms in June will become available in August.

With consumer incomes continuing large, consumption of fluid milk has been consistently exceeding the rate of a year earlier, despite slightly higher retail milk prices. Consumption of cream has continued its decline but use of skimmed products has increased steadily.

The supply of milk for manufacturing has remained below the 1951 rate so far this year, absorbing the decline in milk production. Among individual products, however, the relationships to a year earlier vary considerably. Output of dry whole milk and evaporated milk in the first 5 months of 1952 was much below the 1951 level, butter slightly smaller, total cheese the same as last year, and condensed milk, nonfat dry milk solids and ice cream somewhat greater. Recently the shortage of tin cans has curtailed output of evaporated milk, and milk was channeled to production of butter and nonfat dry milk solids. Nevertheless, latest reports indicated moderately smaller production of butter as well as cheese, compared to 1951.

With stocks of most dairy products below a year earlier, and supplies of manufacturing milk expected to continue smaller, supplies for consumption in the rest of 1952 will be smaller than in the same period of 1951. Since demand is strong, retail prices are likely to be higher than during most of the second half of 1951.

As required by the Defense Production Act as amended, the Secretary of Agriculture announced new regulations governing imports of cheese for the 12 months beginning July 1, 1952. Several types, including Swiss and Roquefort, were freed from controls. Those products on which controls remain may be imported up to specific quotas, which are slightly higher than the quantities permitted in the 1951-52 control period. Under the amended law, the Secretary may increase a quota 15 percent above the rate initially established, under certain conditions. The new regulation also prohibits imports of products containing butterfat that may be used for the same purposes as butter. Imports of butter and nonfat dry milk solids continue under embargo.

The wholesale prices of butter have increased slightly in the past several weeks, but prices for the other dairy commodities have been unchanged. Most items are a little higher than a year ago. Relatively small purchases of nonfat dry milk continue under the price-support program, but cheese purchases have ceased and no butter has been bought this year.

Fats and Oils

Civilians are likely to take more fats and oils in July-December 1952 than in the same period a year earlier. Substantial increases in margarine and shortening are expected to more than offset some reduction in butter consumption. Changes in lard and in cooking and salad oils probably will not be particularly significant.

Consumption of margarine has increased considerably in the last few years, and the trend is expected to continue upward. Many states have repealed or modified their restrictions on production and sale of colored margarine, and price relationships between margarine and butter have been favorable to increased use of margarine. The repeal of the prohibition on production and sale of colored margarine in New York State, effective July 1, 1952, will tend to increase consumption of margarine in the latter part of this year. Only 7 states (with an estimated total population equal to about 10 percent of the U. S. total) now prohibit the manufacture or sale of colored margarine. Domestic disappearance of margarine in January-May 1952 (the latest period for which data are available) was 27 percent above the level of the year before. Consumption of butter in the same period was 10 percent less than a year earlier.

Supplies of butter have been declining in the past few years as more and more farmers in the North Central States have shifted out of milk production into other enterprises. There also has been a shift in the use of milk from butter to more profitable dairy products throughout the Nation. Consumers have not been willing to pay sufficiently high prices for butter to maintain milk production in areas where farmers can sell only cream. The increased availability of colored margarine at a substantially lower price than that of butter also has contributed to the demand situation for butter. Increasingly large supplies of fats and oils used in the production of margarine have been marketed in recent years at much lower prices than those of butterfat.

Domestic disappearance of shortening in the first 5 months of 1952 was up 19 percent over 1951. During most of 1951 household consumers, industrial users, and some distributors apparently drew upon supplies purchased in the latter half of 1950 after fighting started in Korea. As these stocks are not included in Census data, they tended to result in a disappearance figure overstating consumption in 1950 and understating it for 1951. Use of lard and other food fats in the first half of the present year was about the same as a year ago. For the year as a whole, domestic disappearance of all food fats may be up about one pound, with sharp rises in margarine and shortening more than offsetting a substantial decline in butter.

Production of food fats and oils products in 1952 is likely to be greater than a year earlier. Output of lard and butter will be down somewhat, but production of margarine and shortening will be up considerably. Milk production will be down and increasing quantities of milk are being consumed as whole milk products. Production of creamery butter in January-May 1952 was 2 percent less than in 1951. Production of Federally inspected lard during the first half of the year was 8 percent greater than in 1951, but during the rest of the year is likely to fall sharply below the 1951 level. The 1952 spring pig crop (which will supply most of the hogs slaughtered in July-December 1952) is down 9 percent from a year earlier. Production of edible vegetable oils may be larger than the year before with an increase in the first half of the year more than offsetting some possible decline in the latter part of 1952. These oils are used to produce shortening, margarine, and cooking and salad oils.

Exports of food fats and oils (including the oil equivalent of soybeans and peanuts exported for crushing) in July-December 1952 may be less than the large quantities shipped a year earlier. Supplies in many foreign countries are larger now than they were at the same time last year. Exports in January-May 1952 were slightly larger than in the corresponding period in 1951.

Import controls on fats and oils (including butter) were extended through June 1953 by Section 104 of the Defense Production Act. At present, butter is the only edible fat under control.

Retail prices of food fats except butter reached a peak early in 1951 and have since declined about 20 percent. Little change is likely in the next few months and prices will average less than in the comparable period of 1951. Butter prices reached a peak in February 1952, but dropped sharply in succeeding months. The wholesale price of butter now is rising seasonally and in the rest of the year probably will average higher than in the same period a year earlier.

Fruits

Total supplies of fresh and processed fruits available to civilians this summer and fall are expected to be somewhat smaller than those of a year earlier. More fresh peaches and frozen fruit juices will be on hand, but less of the other fresh fruits and of canned fruit juices. Supplies of the other processed fruits will about equal those available in the second half of 1951.

Present prospects are that retail prices of fresh peaches and pears, dried fruits and processed fruit juices will be slightly lower than a year earlier during the next few months, but those of the other fresh and processed fruits may be about the same. Ceiling price regulations on processed fruits have been terminated in accordance with the provisions of the recently amended Defense Production Act of 1950.

Consumption of fresh deciduous fruit per civilian in 1952 is expected to be somewhat smaller than the preceding year's rate. Supplies for consumption so far this year have been less than those a year earlier because of the relatively small quantities of fresh apples and pears carried over on January 1 from the 1951 crops. Consumption is expected to continue below a year earlier during the second half of 1952. This year's total crop of deciduous fruits is expected to be about 8 percent smaller than the comparable 1951 output and slightly smaller than the 10-year (1941-50) average. Production of sweet cherries and peaches probably will be considerably larger than a year earlier, but for the other fruits moderate to sharp declines are in prospect. However, the quantity to be used for processing in 1952 probably will be smaller than that from the 1951 crop. Thus a large part of this year's crop will be available for distribution in the fresh form. Imported fruits, especially bananas, will supplement domestically produced supplies.

Fresh citrus fruit consumption by civilians this year will be about equal to the 1951 per capita rate. Total supplies from the 1951-52 crops were somewhat smaller than a year earlier, but the quantity marketed for fresh use was large because of the sharp reduction in the volume of grapefruit canned this year. Less fresh oranges will be available

this summer than last because of the smaller crop of Valencia oranges in California. Supplies of grapefruit and lemons are expected to be about as large as in the summer of 1951. Prospects as of July 1 point to a large crop of citrus fruits in major producing areas in 1952-53. Supplies from this crop will begin moving to market this fall.

Canned fruit consumption by civilians this year may be about a pound larger than the nearly 19 pounds per person in 1951. Current indications point to a somewhat smaller pack of canned fruit in 1952 than last year's near-record output, but supplies will be maintained at a high level by the very large stocks carried over from the 1951 pack. As of June 1, packers' stocks of 10 major canned fruits totaled 72 percent larger than a year earlier. Because of the smaller inventories held by wholesalers and in chain-store warehouses, the total canned fruit carryover on June 1 was not quite as large as the increase in the packers' stocks would indicate. The large stocks are one of the important factors influencing the volume of this year's output, as is the expected sizeable reduction in military procurement.

Civilian per capita consumption of canned fruit juices in 1952 probably will total about a pound under the quantity taken last year. However, in terms of fresh fruit, this decline will be more than offset by increased consumption of frozen orange juice concentrate. The 1951-52 output of canned citrus juices in Flordia, the principal producing area, was nearly one-fifth smaller than a year earlier. Most of the reduction occurred in citrus products other than canned orange juice. The decline more than offset the very large stocks available at the beginning of the 1951-52 season. On July 5, 1952, stocks of canned citrus juice held by Florida packers were about 25 percent smaller than a year earlier.

Domestic marketings of frozen fruit products this year are expected to exceed last year's total. Civilian consumption of these commodities probably will be considerably above the 1951 rate of 4.7 pounds per capita. Most of the increase in consumption will be accounted for by the expanded consumer use of frozen orange juice concentrate, production of which set a new record during the 1951-52 pack season. Production of frozen deciduous fruits and berries this year is likely to be about as large as in 1951. Among the major items, output of frozen strawberries probably will exceed last year's pack but that of frozen cherries may be somewhat smaller.

Supplies of dried fruit are sufficient for domestic needs until the 1952 pack starts moving into distribution channels in late summer. Production of dried fruit this year may be smaller than the 1951-52 pack, depending largely on the size of the raisin pack. The output of dried prunes this year probably will not exceed that in 1951-52. Despite the prospective decline in dried fruit output, civilian consumption in the 1952 marketing year is expected to be nearly as large as the 4.6 pound per capita rate of a year earlier. The 1951-52 packs of dried prunes and raisins were considerably in excess of domestic needs and subsidy payments were made to encourage exports. As of July 25, 1952 the Department of Agriculture had approved for export about 52,410 tons of prunes and 69,870 tons of raisins under the export-payment program for these fruits.

Vegetables

Total supplies of vegetables commercially produced for fresh market sale during the last half of 1952 probably will not differ much from those of a year earlier. Production of summer crops estimated to date is now indicated to be only slightly lower than a year earlier. Prospective acreages of fall cabbage and early fall tomatoes are slightly larger than acreages harvested a year earlier.

Total summer tonnage of tomatoes, watermelons, snap beans, cabbage, beets, cucumbers, green peppers and cauliflower is expected to be lower than last year. The relatively less important crops of lima beans, eggplant and spinach also are expected to be smaller. On the other hand, larger production than last summer as well as lower prices are expected for cantaloups, carrots, lettuce, and honeydew melons. Sweet corn and green pea supplies are indicated to be about the same as last summer.

Consumption of commercially canned vegetables this year may be about the same as last year's rate. Packs of several major vegetables this year have been expected to fall below last year's because military takings have been cut back as pipelines have filled and because stocks in commercial distribution channels were rebuilt last year. Indicated production of green beans, peas, and winter and spring spinach for processing is down some this year, and acreages of green lima beans, beets, pimientos and tomatoes for processing are below last year. Current commercial stocks of canned vegetables are above those of a year earlier except for sweet corn, lima beans, carrots, and sweetpotatoes. Supplies of canned vegetables are expected to be adequate to maintain domestic civilian consumption per capita through early 1953 at about as high a rate as in 1951 and 1952. Accordingly, retail prices of canned vegetables are not likely to increase much, despite the recent decontrol of prices.

A slightly larger quantity of frozen vegetables is expected to be consumed per capita this year than in 1951. With stocks in cold storage record-large for this time of year and a good-size pack in prospect this year, supplies probably will be adequate to meet consumer demand at about the same level of prices as in July-December 1951.

On the basis of July 1 acreage and yield prospects, the 1952 crop of potatoes is expected to be 4 percent larger than the short 1951 crop. With the crop still a long way from being made, especially in the States which provide large supplies of late potatoes for shipment, a final outturn considerably larger or smaller than that now indicated is quite possible. Little change in the rate of per capita consumption from last fall and early winter is expected.

A general scarcity of potatoes in retail outlets during late spring this year contributed to a lower rate of consumption than a year earlier. Retail prices of potatoes in principal cities, as reported by BLS, during the first half of 1952 moved somewhat erraticly from month to month but generally were at record levels for the months concerned and half again as high as a year earlier.

Although the 1952 sweetpotato crop is now indicated about one-seventh larger than the small 1951 crop, it is only a little more than half the recent 10-year average, and except for last year, the smallest since 1883. The increase in supplies and consumption resulting this year would be only about 1 pound per person.

Prices for sweetpotatoes in early 1952 were high, running up to more than double those of corresponding months a year earlier. With the crop now indicated, prices may fall slightly below last year's levels during the new crop year.

July 1 crop prospects indicate a dry bean crop about 10 percent smaller than last year's. A continued high rate of consumption of dry beans is expected in the last half of 1952, with some increase in prices.

The prospective dry pea crop is 36 percent smaller than the 1951 crop and probably will be reflected in higher prices at retail during the new crop year.

Grain Products

Consumption of most cereal food products per civilian in 1952 is expected to equal that of a year earlier. Retail prices of grain products probably will continue at about present levels, and for the year as a whole average higher than in 1951.

Estimates as of July 1 point to a record rice crop in 1952. The output of wheat, corn and oats in 1952 are expected to exceed those of last year and the 1941-50 average, but much smaller crops of barley and rye appear likely. If output materializes as indicated, plentiful supplies of grain will be available for domestic food and nonfood needs, and for sizeable exports during the 1952-53 marketing year. Although barley and rye supplies will be relatively small, food use is not expected to be reduced.

Supplies of wheat in prospect for 1952-53 are expected to total 1,530 million bushels, the largest on record except for 1942-43 and 1943-44. The wheat crop--at 1,249 million bushels, according to July 1 indications--may be the third largest in our history.

Domestic demand for wheat, for food and nonfood uses, probably will not be much different than in 1951-52. As a result a large quantity will be available for export during the year and for addition to stocks. U. S. exports of wheat in 1952-53 are expected to total less than the high level of a year earlier because of (1) increased competition in the world market from the large Canadian crop anticipated this year, (2) the prospect of a better food supply situation than in 1951-52 in many of the important wheat importing countries, and (3) the continuing relative shortage of dollar resources of some nations.

In view of the prospect for smaller exports during the new marketing period than in 1951-52, stocks of old-crop wheat on July 1, 1953 may be almost three-quarters larger than those of a year earlier, although by no means a record in size.

Rye production in 1952, as reflected by growing conditions on July 1, will be the smallest in 80 years of record. Despite this, however, the anticipated total supply, which includes some imports, will be adequate to cover estimated domestic requirements and even permit a small quantity to be exported.

The supply of rice in prospect for the 1952-53 marketing year will be the largest of record. Current estimates point to a crop of 2,967 million pounds (milled basis, excluding brewers' rice), about 4 percent larger than the record output in 1951. Civilian consumption may be about 5.8 pounds per capita, the same as in 1950-51, but probably slightly smaller than in 1951-52. The potato shortage in the spring of 1952 encouraged some increase in domestic consumption of rice during 1951-52.

Rice exports in 1952-53 are likely to continue very large in terms of our total supplies. However, this quantity will be much too small to fill the gap in world supplies created by the reduction in exportable supplies from surplus rice producing areas in Southeastern Asia.

The feed supply situation expected for 1952-53 is much more favorable than that of the preceding year. Total corn production, based on July 1 growing conditions, is estimated at 3,365 million bushels, second only to the record 1948 crop. The output of oats in 1952 is expected to total 1,353 million bushels, a little larger than last year's production. Barley production this year may total only 208 million bushels, almost 20 percent smaller than the 1951 crop.

Domestic feed grain requirements in 1952-53 are large. As in past years, only a relatively small part of the total supply will be processed directly into food for human consumption. Most of the feed grains will become part of the food supply indirectly--i.e., in the form of livestock, dairy, and poultry products. Accordingly, the large feed supply will be reflected by another year of large supplies of the higher grades of beef and of poultry meat next year. Hog slaughter is expected to be somewhat smaller during most of 1953 than a year earlier because of the smaller pig crops this year, but the prospective large 1952 corn output could mean a small increase in hog production in 1953. If so, larger supplies of pork would be marketed beginning in the latter part of that year.

Sugar

The sugar marketing quota for 1952, at 7,700 thousand tons (raw value), is about equal to the quantity marketed in the continental United States last year by primary distributors but almost 4 percent smaller than the estimated total domestic disappearance of about 8,000 thousand tons. The quota was set at this quantity in order to encourage prices of raw and refined sugar to rise to the level necessary to fairly and equitably maintain the domestic sugar industry. Military purchases of sugar in 1952 for use by members of the armed forces at home and abroad probably will be somewhat higher than last year. On the basis of the current marketing quota, the supply per capita is somewhat less than in 1951.

The volume of sugar marketed domestically by primary distributors during the first half of 1952 totaled 4,061 thousand tons (raw basis), approximately the same as that of a year earlier but almost 10 percent above the 1948-51 average of 3,702 thousand tons. Primary distribution during the second half of this year is expected to exceed that in the comparable part of 1951.

The retail price per pound of refined sugar during the first half of 1952 averaged as high as a year earlier. If prices remain at about the present level in the remaining months of the year, the average for the last 6 months of 1952 will be somewhat higher than that of the comparable part of 1951.

July 1 prospects for the 1952 sugar beet and cane crops point to a slightly larger total output this year than last. Indicated output of sugar beets, estimated at 9,808 thousand tons, is more than 6 percent below the 1951 crop. On the other hand, the prospective cane crop of 7,424 thousand tons is more than 20 percent above last year's output. In terms of raw sugar, the increase in cane production slightly more than offsets the reduction in sugar beet output. Sugar from the 1952 sugar beet and cane crops will begin moving to market late this fall.

The continental United States has never produced enough sugar to cover domestic needs, and consequently has always been dependent upon supplies from offshore producing areas. This year, of the total quantity of sugar to be marketed domestically, only about 30 percent is to come from continental United States sources. The remainder of the domestic marketing quota will be supplies by (1) the territories of the United States--Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands--(about 25 percent of the total quota), and (2) foreign sources (about 45 percent).

Cuba is the most important offshore supplier of sugar to the United States. As of midyear, the marketing quota called for 2,744 thousand tons of Cuban sugar, about one-third of the total quota. This quota probably will very easily be met; the 1952 Cuban sugar crop, currently estimated at more than 7,900 thousand short tons, is about 25 percent larger than a year earlier and the largest on record. Probable exports to the United States will account for about one-third of this huge crop. As in the past 40 years or so, this country continues to be one of the most important markets for Cuban sugar.

Table 5.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and preliminary estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel. 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Meats (carcass weight)							
Beef	Mil.lb.	6,937	9,538	8,843	9,600	138	109
Veal	do.	1,038	1,230	1,061	1,100	106	104
Lamb and mutton	do.	870	597	522	600	69	115
Pork (excluding lard)	do.	7,337	10,714	11,483	11,200	153	98
Total meats	do.	16,182	22,079	21,909	22,500	139	103
Fish (edible weight)							
Fresh and frozen	do.	615	760	770	3/	---	---
Canned 4/	do.	337	643	488	3/	---	---
Cured	do.	74	63	63	3/	---	---
Total fish	do.	1,026	1,466	1,321	3/	---	---
Poultry and eggs							
Eggs	Mil.doz.	3,335	5,384	5,441	5,625	169	103
Chickens (dr. wt.)	Mil.lb.	2,327	4,061	4,557	4,850	208	106
Turkey (dr. wt.)	do.	350	736	836	925	264	111
Dairy products							
Total milk 5/	Bil.lb.	106.4	117.6	116.5	115.3	108	99
Cheese 6/	Mil.lb.	669	1,193	1,158	1,135	170	98
Cond. and evap. milk	do.	2,225	3,205	3,223	3,025	136	94
Ice cream (product weight)	do.	1,232	2,558	2,626	2,700	219	103
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	do.	2,170	1,648	1,464	1,415	65	97
Lard 7/	do.	1,630	2,631	2,864	2,820	173	98
Margarine (fat content)	do.	303	764	845	1,005	332	119
Shortening	do.	1,529	1,710	1,404	1,584	104	113
Other edible fats and oils 8/	do.	575	1,611	2,114	1,797	313	85
Total fats and oils 9/	do.	6,207	8,364	8,691	8,621	139	99
Fruits							
Fresh:							
Citrus	do.	6,875	10/6,754	10/7,622	10/7,700	112	101
Apples (commercial)	do.	4,385	3,894	3,538	3,550	81	100
Other (excl. melons)	do.	4,703	4,059	4,425	4,400	94	99
Processed:							
Canned fruit	do.	1,705	2,716	3,109	2,800	164	90
Canned fruit juices	do.	333	2,085	2,441	1,950	586	80
Frozen (incl. juice)	do.	106	785	802	925	873	115
Dried	do.	1,118	743	939	900	81	96

- Continued

Table 5.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and preliminary estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/- Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel. 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Vegetables							
Fresh 11/	Mil.lb.	30,520	10/38,794	10/38,944	10/38,750	127	100
Canned	do.	4,030	5,905	7,799	6,700	166	86
Frozen	do.	12/ 78	587	770	725	929	94
Potatoes	Mil.bu.	355	430	326	339	95	104
Sweetpotatoes	do.	68	50	28	32	47	114
Dry edible beans 3/	Mil.lb.	1,360	1,513	1,600	1,450	107	91
Dry field peas 13/	do.	229	295	348	250	109	72
Canned baby foods	do.	48	547	503	550	1,146	109
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 sh.tons	1,948	2,460	2,042	2,035	104	100
Grains							
Wheat	Mil.bu.	759	1,019	987	1,249	165	127
Rye	do.	44.9	21.3	21.4	15.6	35	73
Rice, milled	Mil.lb.	1,340	2,644	2,522	2,856	213	113
Corn, grain only	Mil.bu.	2,050	2,760	2,653	3,050	149	115
Oats	do.	1,045	1,410	1,316	1,353	129	103
Barley	do.	239	304	255	208	87	82
Peanuts, farmers' stock basis	Mil.lb.	1,229	2,022	1,595	3/	---	---

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; rice on a marketing year. 2/ Preliminary estimates based on trends in livestock numbers, current or prospective rates of output, average or probable acreages and yields, and such other data or advance estimates as are available. These estimates are used only to indicate the general level of food supplies for domestic consumption for 1952, but they are based on such official estimates as are available at this time. Revisions will of course be made from time to time throughout the year as official indications or estimates are issued through the Crop Reporting Service of the Department. 3/ Not available. 4/Excludes canned food products containing small quantities of fish such as clam chowder, etc. 5/These estimates include farm production of milk as reported by the Crop Reporting Board in "Farm Production, Disposition, and Income from Milk, 1950-51" (April 1952) and a tentative allowance for non-farm production of 2.8 billion pounds in 1935-39, 1.0 in 1950, 0.9 in 1951, and 0.8 billion pounds in 1952. 6/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot and bakers' cheese. 7/ Including amount used in manufactured food and nonfood products. 8/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other minor used such as fish canning. 9/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 10/ Unrevised for results of the 1950 Census of Agriculture. 11/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 12/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 13/ Cleaned basis.

Table 6.- Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, 1940-50 and 1951-52 by months

(Index numbers 1935-39=100)

Year and month	Meats 1/	Eggs	Dairy products 2/	Fats and oils 3/	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables: Fresh	Fruit and vegetables: Canned	Fruit and vegetables: Dried	Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
1940:	96	94	101	82	97	97	92	101	97	92	97	100
1941:	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	106	105
1942:	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	126	122	124	117
1943:	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
1944:	130	153	134	123	108	177	130	166	126	124	136	126
1945:	131	164	134	124	109	188	130	168	126	125	139	129
1946:	161	169	165	152	125	191	141	190	144	140	160	140
1947:	217	201	186	198	155	202	166	264	180	187	194	160
1948:	246	209	205	196	171	212	158	247	174	205	210	172
1949:	233	201	187	148	170	219	153	227	176	221	202	170
1950:	244	174	185	144	173	206	146	229	180	313	204	172
1951:	272	211	206	169	188	223	166	250	187	344	227	186
Jan.:	264	192	203	172	185	220	161	253	186	341	222	182
Feb.:	270	180	204	176	187	233	165	257	186	343	226	184
Mar.:	272	195	205	177	188	221	167	257	186	343	226	184
Apr.:	273	191	204	178	188	216	169	258	186	344	226	185
May :	273	198	204	177	188	226	170	257	185	345	227	185
June:	272	201	204	175	188	224	170	254	186	345	227	185
July:	273	212	205	169	189	222	170	251	188	245	228	186
Aug.:	275	226	206	163	189	209	166	248	188	345	227	186
Sept:	276	239	206	162	189	204	164	246	188	345	227	187
Oct.:	277	243	208	161	189	214	163	241	187	346	229	187
Nov.:	274	242	210	158	190	235	163	238	187	347	231	189
Dec.:	270	217	213	158	190	255	163	239	186	347	232	189
1952:												
Jan.:	272	184	216	155	191	263	163	239	186	347	232	189
Feb.:	271	166	217	151	191	235	164	238	185	347	228	188
Mar.:	268	161	216	146	191	248	164	236	184	347	228	188
Apr.:	267	166	213	143	191	273	164	237	186	347	230	189
May :	266	164	211	140	194	283	164	237	187	347	231	189
June:	271	169	210	140	193	278	162	237	188	346	232	190

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The consumer price index is adjusted for "new unit bias" in rents beginning 1940; in addition, beginning 1950 all series are adjusted for expanded commodity coverage and revisions in both commodity and population weights. Detailed description of the adjustments are published in the April 1951 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

1/ Includes chicken and fish.

2/ Includes butter.

3/ Excludes butter.

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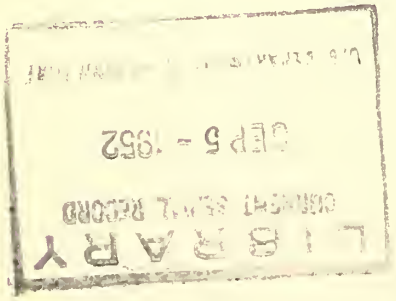

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THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-62 BAE OCT.- DEC. 1952

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 9, 1952

SUMMARY

Food supplies per person in prospect for civilians in 1953 probably will be at least as large as in the past 3 years, if weather conditions are normal. Consumer demand probably will continue strong and retail food prices are likely to average about the same as in 1952.

Looking ahead to 1953, we may expect some increases in civilian consumption per capita over 1952 rates for beef and veal; chicken; margarine; frozen fruits, fruit juices, and vegetables; fresh vegetables; and sweetpotatoes. These increases will be countered by somewhat lower rates of consumption for pork, eggs, turkey, and butter.

Important features of the outlook for food production next year are the expectation of somewhat larger marketings of meat animals and increased output of fruits and vegetables if weather conditions are more nearly normal than in 1952. Military procurement of food in 1953 probably will approximate that of 1952 unless the international situation should change markedly. Exports and shipments of food from the United States, the bulk of which are food grains, are expected to decline. Wheat crops in many countries have been much larger this year and the relative shortage of dollar exchange in food importing countries will continue.

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Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1941, 1950, 1951 and preliminary estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/
(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1941	1950	1951	1952 Prel. 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Food grains 3/	131	148	145	189	130
Truck crops 4/	116	147	160	152	95
Fruits and nuts 5/	113	126	128	121	95
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 6/	100	113	89	92	103
Sugar crops 7/	97	112	88	91	103
Total food crops 8/	116	134	129	139	108
Meat animals 9/	117	138	143	148	103
Poultry 10/	120	179	191	200	105
Dairy products 11/	110	113	112	111	99
Total food livestock	115	138	142	146	103
Food production	115	137	139	144	104
Agricultural production, food and nonfood	113	135	140	144	103
Civilian per capita food consumption	109	111	111	112	101

1/ Beginning with 1950, the data for most commodities have been revised to reflect changes in estimates of production which incorporated benchmark data from the 1950 Census of Agriculture. Revisions for the years 1945-49 are not yet complete. 2/ Production estimates for 1952 are based on preliminary crop indications as of Oct. 1 and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products. 3/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat. 4/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes). 5/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts. 6/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes. 7/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup. 8/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops. 9/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs. 10/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers. 11/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Total food utilization: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average, 1940-44 and 1950-52 1/

Year	Total food utilization	Source of total food: Food production	Imports	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Distribution: Civilian	Military, including military feeding	Department of Agriculture 2/: Net purchases	Deliveries	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Commercial exports and shipments 3/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Section a. Percentage of food utilization in each year												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	100.0	95.1	5.5		.6	98.0						2.0
1941	100.0	94.4	5.8		.2	93.8	2.0	2.4	1.9		.5	1.8
1942	100.0	94.2	3.7	2.1		87.2	5.8	5.9	4.5		1.4	1.1
1943	100.0	95.8	4.8		.6	81.4	9.6	8.1	7.1		1.0	.9
1944	100.0	94.0	5.0	1.0		79.7	13.2	6.0	6.5	.5		1.1
....												
1950	100.0	95.0	5.3		.3	93.0	4/2.0	1.7	1.5		.2	3.3
1951	100.0	94.7	5.1	.2		89.9	4/3.9	1.0	1.9	.7		5.2
1952 Prel.	100.0	95.0	4.8	.2		90.6	4/3.5	.5	.7	.3		5.4
Section b. Percentage of 1935-39 food utilization												
1935-39 av.	100.0	93.9	6.1			97.7		-.2		.2		2.5
1940	109.6	104.2	6.0		.6	107.4						2.2
1941	114.4	108.0	6.7		.3	107.3	2.3	2.7	2.2		.5	2.1
1942	125.6	118.3	4.7	2.6		109.5	7.3	7.4	5.6		1.8	1.4
1943	131.3	125.8	6.3		.8	106.9	12.7	10.6	9.3		1.3	1.1
1944	139.9	131.5	7.0	1.4		111.4	18.4	8.5	9.1	.6		1.6
....												
1950	135.4	128.6	7.2		.4	126.0	4/2.7	2.3	2.0		.3	4.4
1951	137.8	130.5	7.0	.3		123.8	4/5.4	1.4	2.6	1.2		7.2
1952 Prel.	142.4	135.2	6.9	.3		129.0	4/5.0	.7	1.0	.3		7.7

1/ Beginning with 1950, the data for most commodities have been revised to reflect changes in estimates of production which incorporated benchmark data from the 1950 Census of Agriculture. Revisions for the years 1945-49 are not yet complete. The upper section of the table divides the utilization in each year (1) according to the source of the food and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total utilization figures and the break-down are on an index number basis, that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The utilization figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower section contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food utilization in 1935-39 instead of total utilization each year. 2/ The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are food for lend-lease, relief, and purchases for foreign governments, except meat transactions in the drought years. These quantities are measured (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks are included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. When Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased, stocks were built up; and vice versa. 3/ For the war years, these data indicate the commercial portion of exports and shipments, which is total exports and shipments minus the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture. 4/ Including procurement for relief feeding in areas occupied by our armed forces.

Consumer income will continue at a high level and domestic demand for food is likely to be strong most of the year. Prices of individual foods will be affected by the changes in supplies noted above but the price changes may be about offsetting. The reduction in foreign demand will not have much effect on retail food prices since it affects principally those commodities already in plentiful supply in U. S. markets.

Stocks of food from this year's harvests and marketings from the large number of livestock now on farms will provide as much food for the fall and winter as in 1951-52, with some changes for individual commodities. According to present indications, a little more beef and veal, turkey, eggs, fish, oranges, frozen fruits and vegetables, and margarine will be marketed, on a per person basis, than last fall and winter, but less pork, butter and other dairy products, canned vegetables, and tree nuts.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES

Retail food prices in 1953 are expected to average approximately the same as in 1952 unless weather conditions are unfavorable or the international situation worsens. Strong consumer demand for food and the small increase in our population probably will absorb any slight increase in total civilian supplies. The expected continued rise in processing and marketing costs will also contribute to maintaining the retail food price level. Prices of individual foods will change as market supplies vary from season to season.

The current schedule for outlays under the defense programs provides for continued expansion into 1953, then perhaps leveling off in the latter part of the year. The demand for materials and services generated by these programs and by the continued relatively large outlays for business investment in plant and equipment probably will sustain a high level of employment and consumer purchasing power through most of the year. Consumer expenditures for food in 1953 are likely to keep pace with the small increase in consumer income now foreseen for the year as a whole.

Supplies of food for domestic consumption probably will be at least as large, even on a per capita basis, as in the past 3 years. Stocks of food from 1952 harvests, continued high level of domestic output during the coming year, and imports about equal to those of 1952 will combine to provide a large total food supply, barring unfavorable weather. Military procurement of food in 1953 is now expected to approximate that of 1952. Foreign demand for food commodities, principally grain, will be reduced next year because of better harvests in other food exporting countries and in several major importing countries. Although droughts reduced food crops in South Africa, Pakistan, Yugoslavia and certain Eastern European countries, shortage of dollar exchange will restrict exports of food from the United States to those areas.

Indicated total demand for food in 1953 and expected food supplies probably will keep retail food prices at about the current level for the year as a whole. However, some changes in prices of individual commodities are forecast. Prices of turkey, eggs, butter, some cereal products, dry beans and peas, and canned vegetables are likely to run higher next year; but beef and veal, lamb, chicken, fish, frozen fruit juices, and fresh vegetables may sell for a little less, on the average, than in 1952.

Table 3.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

(Primary distribution weight)

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel.	1952 as a percentage of	
					1935-39	1951
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent
Meats (carcass weight)-Total	126.2	143.5	137.6	142.0	113	103
Beef	55.2	63.0	56.1	60.4	109	108
Veal	8.1	8.0	6.6	7.0	86	106
Lamb and mutton	6.8	3.9	3.4	3.9	57	115
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	68.6	71.5	70.7	126	99
Fish (edible weight)-Total	11.1	11.5	11.5	11.4	103	99
Fresh and frozen	5.3	6.3	6.4	2/	---	---
Canned 3/	4.8	4.3	4.2	2/	---	---
Cured	1.0	.9	.9	2/	---	---
Poultry products						
Eggs-number	298	386	397	406	136	102
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	26.4	28.8	29.5	165	102
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	4.9	5.2	5.6	215	108
Dairy products						
Cheese	5.5	7.7	7.2	7.5	136	104
Condensed and evaporated milk	16.7	20.0	18.2	17.9	107	98
Fluid milk and cream	340	4/385	4/395	4/400	118	101
Ice cream (product weight)	9.5	16.1	16.1	16.4	173	102
Fats and oils-Total, fat content 5/	44.7	45.4	41.8	43.7	98	105
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	10.7	9.6	8.7	52	91
Lard	11.0	12.1	12.2	12.2	111	100
Margarine (actual weight)	2.9	6.1	6.5	7.7	266	118
Shortening	11.7	11.0	9.0	10.0	85	111
Other edible fats and oils	6.3	8.8	7.6	8.3	132	109
Fruits						
Fresh:						
Citrus	48.9	4/40.9	44.8	44.3	91	99
Apples (commercial)	30.4	23.1	25.6	22.7	75	89
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	46.1	47.3	46.0	78	97
Processed:						
Canned fruit	14.9	20.9	18.7	19.7	132	105
Canned juices	3.9	13.8	14.8	13.9	356	94
Frozen (including juices)	.8	4.3	4.7	5.5	688	117
Dried	5.8	4.4	4.4	4.5	78	102
Vegetables						
Fresh	235	4/252	4/254	4/241	103	95
Canned	29.9	41.8	41.4	41.2	138	100
Frozen	6/ .4	3.3	4.1	4.2	1,050	102
Potatoes	131	104	104	102	78	98
Sweetpotatoes	21.4	12.8	6.5	7.5	35	115
Dry edible beans	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.5	97	101
Dry field peas	.6	.8	.7	.7	117	100
Sugar, refined	97.0	95.5	96.3	7/91-96	96	97
Grains						
Corn products:						
Corn meal	22.9	13.2	12.7	12.5	55	98
Corn sirup	7.6	9.1	9.0	9.0	118	100
Corn starch	1.3	1.9	1.9	1.9	146	100
Corn sugar	2.7	4.5	4.1	4.0	148	98
Breakfast cereals	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	94	100
Hominy	1.4	2.7	2.7	2.7	193	100
Oatmeal	3.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	77	100
Barley food products 8/	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	100	100
Wheat:						
Flour 9/	159	133	133	133	84	100
Breakfast cereals	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	89	100
Rye flour	2.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	68	100
Rice, milled	5.6	5.0	5.8	5.5	98	95
Beverages						
Coffee 10/	14.0	16.1	16.4	16.4	117	100
Tea	.67	.60	.65	.64	96	98
Cocoa beans	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.0	91	100
Peanuts (shelled)	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	102	100

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel not eating out of civilian supplies.

1/ Quantity in pounds except for eggs which are stated in number. Data on calendar year basis except for dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; fresh citrus fruits, dry field peas and peanuts on a crop year basis; rice on August 1 year; and canned fruit and vegetables on a pack year basis in 1935-39. All years begin in year indicated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year.

2/ Not available.

3/ Excludes canned food products containing small quantities of fish such as clam chowder, etc.

4/ Unrevised for results of 1950 Census of Agriculture.

5/ Computed from unrounded data.

6/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available.

7/ Based on the U. S. domestic requirements of 7,700 thousand tons (raw value) as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

8/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent.

9/ Includes white, whole wheat, and semolina flour.

10/ Green bean basis.

NUTRITIONAL REVIEW 1/

Except for a slight increase in the quantities of ascorbic acid and vitamin A, little change is expected in the nutrients available for consumption in the coming year. Available food supplies will continue to provide abundant and varied diets.

Predictions of somewhat larger supplies of oranges account for most of the anticipated increase in ascorbic acid, while the expected increase in vitamin A is due to possibly higher consumption of sweetpotatoes.

When 1952 and 1953 food supplies are compared with those of prewar years, there is a marked increase in several important nutrients. This is due in large part to the increased consumption of dairy products other than butter; leafy, green, and yellow vegetables; citrus fruit; and meat and poultry products. In the order given, these food groups are important contributors of calcium, ascorbic acid, and protein. The enrichment of grain products which first became important during the war years has contributed greatly to the increases in iron and the B vitamins.

Table 4.- Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

Nutrients	Units	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel.	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Food energy	Cal.	3,280	3,270	3,240	3,250	99	100
Protein	Grams	89	94	95	96	108	101
Fat	Grams	132	146	141	146	111	104
Carbohydrate	Grams	431	399	402	394	91	98
Calcium	Grams	.94	1.06	1.07	1.08	115	101
Iron	Mg.	13.6	16.3	16.5	16.5	121	100
Vitamin A value	I.U.	8,100	8,500	8,000	8,100	100	101
Thiamine	Mg.	1.43	1.90	1.95	1.93	135	99
Riboflavin	Mg.	1.86	2.35	2.36	2.38	128	101
Niacin	Mg.	15.2	19.0	19.0	19.0	125	100
Ascorbic acid	Mg.	115	117	122	118	103	97

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption from urban gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss or waste in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food. Deductions have been made for inedible refuse. The data for 1950-52 for iron, thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to prepared cereals, bread and white flour.

1/ Prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

These changes have caused a shift in the relative importance of some food groups as contributors of the various nutrients. For example, grain products now provide relatively larger proportions of iron and the B vitamins, while meat, poultry and fish and potatoes contribute less. During the five year period 1935-39, the potato-sweetpotato and citrus fruit-tomato groups each contributed, on the average, about 25 percent of the total supply of ascorbic acid. Based on the analysis of forecasts of the food supply for 1953, potatoes and sweetpotatoes will contribute only about 16 percent of the total ascorbic acid available whereas citrus fruit and tomatoes will have increased their contribution to 31 percent.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Meat production will be seasonally large during the rest of 1952 and will probably total moderately above the same period in 1951. Beef and veal will provide most of the increase. Output of lamb is expected to be a little larger than a year earlier, but pork will continue below year-earlier levels. Accordingly, supplies of meat for civilian consumption this fall may show some increase over those of the latter part of 1951.

Further increases in beef and veal production are probable for 1953, and will more than offset an indicated decline in pork. Civilian per capita supplies of beef and veal may rise as much as 10 percent above 1952 to the highest rate since 1918, except for 1947.

The prospect for a substantial increase in total beef and veal supplies this fall stems from the expansion in cattle numbers during the past 4 years. Marketings of cattle off grass will provide much of the increase from a year ago. Receipts of grass cattle this fall have been at the highest rate since the fall of 1949. Supplies of well-finished cattle, which comprised a larger than usual proportion of total receipts this spring and summer are expected to taper off late in 1952. Production of beef so far this fall has been markedly above last fall and the 1952 total may show a gain of about 9 percent from 1951. Heavier slaughter weights of cattle have accounted for much of the increase over a year earlier. For the first 9 months weights averaged about 3 percent above 1951. Although veal production in the final months of 1952 is expected to be substantially above a year earlier, total output for the year will be only moderately above 1951.

Hog slaughter and pork production have been smaller than last year each month since May. Although output will increase seasonally until about early December, it will continue smaller than a year earlier and for the final quarter this year will average around 10 percent less. Large supplies of pork were in storage on January 1, 1952 and slaughter early in the year was heavy. Therefore, consumption per person for the year as a whole will be only slightly below 1951.

Lamb and mutton output during the final quarter will likely be above year-earlier levels. Sheep and lamb slaughter has been above 1951 so far this year. Fewer sheep and lambs than last year are apparently being withheld for building up breeding herds or for feeding.

Military procurement of beef and veal from domestic slaughter has been significantly smaller this year, taking less out of civilian supplies. At the same time, much less beef has been imported. There has been little change in exports, which are small for all meats. Pork comprises most of our meat exports.

Retail prices of beef during the rest of the year will stay below 1951 levels because of the larger supplies, with prices of the better grades holding up relatively more than those of the lower grades. Pork prices will probably decrease seasonally this fall and average close to those in the corresponding period last year. Prices of lamb also may be not greatly different from a year earlier.

A large supply of both the better and lower grades of beef is in prospect for next year. Cattle off grass from which come lower grade beef will provide most of the increase, but supplies of better grade beef from well-finished cattle will also be up. Veal production will be larger, but will continue small in relation to the production of beef. Most of the calves slaughtered come from milking herds. Since the number of milk cows has remained fairly stable in the past 3 years, veal production has not kept pace with increased beef output.

Little change in lamb and mutton production is expected in 1953. Production in the early months of the year probably will be smaller than at the same time of 1952 when relatively large numbers of fed lambs were slaughtered. Production later in the year may be sufficient to make up the difference.

Production of pork next year will likely total a little less than this year. Farmers' intentions on June 1 indicated that the 1952 fall pig crop would be about 9 percent smaller than that of a year earlier. As is the case for lamb and mutton, pork output during the winter and spring will be smaller than at the same seasons this year. Output during the last few months of 1953 may be about the same as this fall and winter, since the outlook points to little change, or at most a small increase, in the 1953 spring pig crop. Cold storage stocks of pork on January 1, 1953, are expected to be substantially smaller than those held on January 1, 1952, also contributing to smaller supplies of pork in 1953 than in 1952.

Imports of beef may not change greatly in 1953. Military takings are expected to be about the same next year, assuming no major international development.

The general outlook is that retail prices of beef and veal next year will average moderately lower than in 1952, reflecting increased supplies and little change in consumer demand for food. On the other hand, the price of pork may average about the same as in 1952, with the effect of shorter pork supplies being offset by larger beef supplies. The price of lamb might run slightly lower next year because of the increase in beef supplies.

Fishery Products 1/

U.S. civilian consumption of fishery products this fall probably will be slightly larger than a year earlier. Supplies, especially of frozen fish, are likely to be somewhat greater than last year, and retail prices may not average quite as high as in the last quarter of 1951.

Commercial fishing and fish freezing operations will decline seasonally as the year comes to a close. On September 1, stocks of frozen fishery products in the continental United States totaled almost 163 million pounds, 17 percent above those of a year earlier. Cold-storage holdings will continue to rise until November or December and probably will set a new record high for each of the remaining months.

Canned fish supplies will be seasonally large during the last quarter of the year as the 1952 packs of salmon and Maine sardines move into distribution channels in large volume. This year's pack of canned salmon is approximately the same as last year's, and that of Maine sardines is larger than the unusually small output in 1951. The production of canned tuna may not exceed the corresponding 1951 total, but supplies both at the packer level and in distribution channels are substantial. Processors have recently reduced the price of the lower grades of canned light-meat tuna in an attempt to encourage increased sales of this product.

Supplies of fishery products in 1953 are expected to be plentiful. Probably at least as much fresh and frozen products will be available as this year and, with a decline in military procurement from the 1952 packs in prospect, the civilian market most likely will have about as much canned fish. Through mid-1953, when the current marketing period ends, the supply of canned salmon and Maine sardines will be larger and that of canned tuna about equal to a year earlier. Civilian consumption of all fishery products, both fresh and processed combined, in 1953 is expected to be a little higher per person than this year, reflecting in part the continued expansion in the area of the domestic market for frozen fish and shellfish. With meat and poultry products likely to be in slightly larger supply and prices slightly lower than in 1952, retail prices of fishery products for 1953 as a whole may be somewhat lower than in 1952.

The pattern of foreign trade of the United States in fishery products in 1953 is expected to follow that of this year. Imports, especially of frozen fish fillets, probably will be above the record level reached in 1952 and will continue to furnish an important part of our total supply of frozen fishery products. Exports from the United States are likely to continue not very different from this year's relatively low level. The export market for our fishery products probably will continue to be limited by restrictions which were established by some countries in order to conserve their relatively small dollar resources. In addition, our exportable supply of pilchards (California sardines)--a popular commodity abroad--may not be as large in total as in 1952.

1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior.

Poultry and Eggs

The American public will have at least as much, and possibly a little more, chicken per capita in 1953 as in 1952, but fewer eggs and somewhat less turkey meat. The reductions in prospect are not serious from the consumer point of view, since the per capita egg and turkey supplies for 1953 would still be relatively high.

For the remaining months of 1952, the outlook is for plentiful supplies of poultry products. Egg production is expected to exceed the monthly rates of late 1951 and retail egg prices probably will remain lower than a year earlier. The record turkey crop this year will provide abundant supplies of both the large and small birds for the holiday season, at prices that probably will continue below those of a year earlier. Chicken supplies in the next few months are expected to average about the same as a year earlier, with the smaller output of broilers approximately offset by smaller net movement of farm chicken into cold storage. The seasonal shortage of hatching eggs in August and September limited the expansion in broiler production which otherwise might have occurred in response to the high prices prevailing at that time. In September prices of farm chickens and broilers averaged about the same as a year earlier. Broiler prices will decline seasonally in the next month or two but are not expected to repeat the sharp drop which occurred in the last quarter of 1951.

By January, egg production may be down to the rates of early 1952 and in the spring may fall short of output a year earlier. This decline is expected because of the reduction in the number of chickens raised this year for egg production. Laying flocks on January 1, 1953 may include 2 to 4 percent fewer potential layers than on January 1, 1952. Accordingly, with consumer demand continuing strong and with storage demand likely to average as high as in 1952, higher springtime egg prices are likely. The average for the year probably will be above the 1952 level.

The possibility of increased supplies of chicken arises from the likelihood that the broiler business will continue to expand, though at a lower rate than in past years. Little change in supplies from farm flocks is indicated. Despite the prospects for somewhat larger supplies of red meats and lower prices for beef and veal, demand for chicken meat probably will continue almost as strong as in 1952. Therefore, prices of chicken meat might average only slightly less in 1953 than in 1952.

Storage stocks of turkeys at the beginning of the new year will be large, in line with the size of the crop. As in the past, these holdings are likely to be mostly heavy toms for institutional and restaurant use. The turkeys for use in homes, after the turn of the year, would, for the most part, be small turkeys from current production. Production of small turkeys may be down in 1953, because of the recent level of returns to growers. Recent hatchings of this class of turkey in Virginia, one of the leading States, have been 22 percent below a year earlier. The 1953 output of large turkeys is also expected to be down somewhat. With some reduction in supplies, turkey prices may average a little higher next year.

Dairy Products

Supplies of milk in various forms will total a trifle smaller per capita in 1953 than in 1952. Consumption per person will be about as large next year as in 1952 for most dairy items except butter for which a further drop is in prospect.

Production of milk in the United States has not increased in the past decade, while the population and total agricultural output have risen substantially. This is the result of a decline in domestic demand for some dairy products and to relatively higher returns from other types of farm enterprises.

Total milk production may be a little above the 114 billion pounds likely to be produced this year. Supplies of both feed concentrates and roughages, per animal unit, will be a little lower in the feeding year that started on October 1 but prevailing milk prices are expected to put dairy farmers in a favorable position to compete for the available feed supplies. Also, if weather is normal, pasture conditions will contribute to higher milk output per cow than in 1951.

The effects of the declining production of milk on a per capita basis are being cushioned by the tendency for the Nation to consume less milk fat per person and more of the available supply of milk solids-not-fat. Civilian consumption of milk fat solids in 1952 apparently will be about 28 pounds per person, compared with 30 to 32 pounds in every year prior to 1945. Consumption of milk solids-not-fat, on the other hand, is now around 47 pounds per person, 8 pounds above the level of two decades ago.

In 1953, retail prices of dairy products may be either about the same as in 1952, or a little higher. Consumption of individual dairy products, except butter, will be as large or a little larger than in 1952. Butter consumption is likely to decline further in 1953, perhaps nearly to 8 pounds per person, about one-half of the 1935-39 average. Margarine consumption, on the other hand, reached a record of 7.7 pounds per person in 1952 and may show a further increase in 1953.

Supplies of dairy products for consumption in the last quarter of 1952 will be a little smaller than a year earlier and seasonally smaller than in the past two quarters. Milk production is not likely to exceed that in the last quarter of 1951 and total stocks of dairy products are smaller than at this time last year. The memory of the exceptionally sharp price increases for butter in the winter of 1951-52, may result in a more gradual disposition by the trade of available supplies over the months and in smoother seasonal price increases than last year. Prices for manufactured dairy products as a group probably will increase from now to early 1953. Prices for fluid milk, now higher than a year ago, will show further seasonal increases in a number of areas, largely because of the effects of last summer's drought.

Fats and Oils

Supplies of food fats in the fall and winter of 1952 are expected to be large. Carry-over stocks are bigger than a year earlier and output reaches its seasonal peak during this period. Civilian consumption of these products probably will remain near last year's high level. Retail prices of food fats, except butter, are lower than a year earlier and are likely to remain so the rest of the year.

Supplies of food fats for the year beginning October 1, 1952 may be nearly as large as last year's record supplies, with the larger carry-over of lard and vegetable oils almost offsetting a moderate drop in production. Butter output will decline slightly since little change in milk production is likely and diversion of milk to other dairy products which yield a higher return to farmers is expected to continue. Retail prices for butter at present are above last year's level and probably will remain higher during most of 1952-53.

Based on crop reports as of October 1, output of edible vegetable oils used in shortening, margarine and other food products such as cooking and salad oils may decline less than 5 percent from the year before. However, production of the finished products could be increased by drawing upon stocks or by a decline in exports.

Production of lard in 1952-53 is expected to be moderately smaller than the 2,920 million pounds of the year before. The 1952 spring pig crop was 9 percent less than last year and farmers' intentions on June 1 indicated that the 1952 fall pig crop would also be down 9 percent from the year before.

Civilian consumption of food fats and oils in 1953 is expected to be about the same as the high 1952 rate of nearly 44 pounds (fat content) per person. Supplies will be large and real consumer income will continue high. The further decline in butter probably will be partly offset by increased use of margarine. Little change is anticipated in use of other food fats. Retail prices of food fats, except butter, are expected to remain somewhat lower than a year earlier, at least until next spring. During this period of 1951-52, retail prices were in the early stage of a sharp decline from the post-Korean peaks of early 1951.

Fruit

Total supplies of fruit available to civilians this fall and winter are expected to be about the same as those of a year earlier. Supplies of most fresh deciduous fruits and grapefruit probably will not be any larger than in the fall and winter of 1951-52, but those of oranges will be moderately larger. About as much canned fruits and juices and more frozen juices will be available. Supplies of tree nuts are expected to be moderately smaller.

Marketings of fresh apples this fall and winter from the smaller 1952 crop may run a little less than those of the same period of 1951-52. The 1952 pear crop is slightly larger than that of 1951, and marketings this fall for fresh use may be about the same. The cranberry crop is about one-tenth smaller than the large 1951 crop. Smaller marketings for fresh use and higher prices are in prospect this fall than a year earlier. The 1952 grape crop totals less than the 1951 crop, but with some reduction in demand for grapes for wine manufacture, fresh market supplies of grapes are expected to be plentiful this fall at prices below those of 1951.

Prospective supplies of oranges for marketing in the fall and winter of 1952-53 are somewhat larger than the marketings a year earlier. Larger 1952-53 crops of oranges are expected in Florida and California, the main producing States. While the crop of grapefruit in Florida is below a year earlier, marketings may be as large as in the 1951-52 season. Although some recovery in grapefruit production in Texas is expected, the crop again will amount to only a small percentage of production before freezes damaged the groves in 1949 and 1951. Retail prices for oranges and grapefruit probably will not be greatly different from prices last fall and winter.

Imports of bananas this fall and in the first half of 1953 probably will be about equal to those in this period of 1951-52, providing for consumption of about 18 pounds per person per year. This would be considerably under immediate prewar rates which fluctuated around 22 pounds. Receipts of canned pineapple and pineapple juice in 1952-53 are expected to continue at or near the rates of 1951-52.

Because of a smaller domestic crop and prospective smaller imports, supplies and percapita consumption of tree nuts in the 1952-53 season are expected to be moderately below those for 1951-52. In the United States, reductions in the almond and pecan crops are expected more than to offset increases in walnuts and filberts. Imports of cashews probably will be nearly as large as in 1951-52 but those of Brazil nuts, most of which have already arrived, are considerably smaller.

Civilian supplies of canned fruits for 1952-53 appear to be about as large per person as the rate of consumption in the past season. The packs probably will be down about a tenth, but stocks on hand from the old packs are substantially higher than in mid-1951 and military takings may be somewhat lower. The reductions in packs are fairly general, with peaches and R. S. P. cherries showing the sharpest drops. However, a much larger pack of sweet cherries is reported and a somewhat larger pack of applesauce is likely.

With good stocks on hand and no increase in demand probable, retail prices of most canned fruits in 1952-53 are expected to average out about the same as in the past year.

With output of frozen citrus juices setting a new record in 1952, total supplies of frozen fruits and fruit juices are expected to continue larger this fall and winter than in the same period of 1951-52. Among the more important frozen fruits and berries, supplies of cherries will be smaller this winter and spring and those of strawberries probably will be about the same. About twice as much orange juice has moved into consumption this summer as a year earlier. Further increases in output of frozen orange concentrate are expected in 1952-53. Per capita consumption of frozen fruits and fruit juices in 1952 is expected to exceed 5 pounds, to set a new record. Retail prices for most frozen fruits and juices this fall and winter probably will continue at or near current levels which are somewhat below those of late 1951.

Although the size of the 1952-53 pack of dried fruits is still uncertain, depending largely on the raisin pack, total supplies of dried fruits in 1952-53 are expected to be adequate for the usual needs. In fact, there probably again will be a considerable surplus of raisins, of which a larger pack in 1952-53 seems likely. But the pack of dried prunes is expected to be much smaller than in 1951-52. Retail prices for dried prunes may be a little higher than in 1951-52, but prices for other dried fruits probably will be about the same or perhaps a little lower. Per capita consumption of dried fruits averaged about 4.4 pounds in 1951-52.

Output of canned citrus juices from the 1952-53 crops probably will be slightly larger than that of 1951-52. Most of the increase will be in the packs of canned grapefruit juice and blended orange and grapefruit juice. Total stocks of Florida citrus juice held by packers at the start of the 1952-53 season are smaller than a year earlier; with grapefruit juice showing the sharpest decline. Accordingly, total supplies of canned citrus juices are expected to be smaller in 1953 than in 1952. Supplies of other canned fruit juices, including pineapple juice from Hawaii, probably will be about as large this fall and winter as a year earlier and retail prices are expected to continue near current levels. Per capita consumption of all canned fruit juices in 1952 is estimated at approximately 14 pounds, nearly a pound under the 1951 rate.

Vegetables

Supplies of fresh vegetables for the fall and winter are expected to be slightly larger in total than those marketed in the fall and winter of 1951-52. Supplies of frozen vegetables probably will be larger, but supplies of canned vegetables for consumption in 1952-53 are somewhat smaller.

Prospective production of those vegetables for the fresh market this fall which have been estimated to date totals about 3 percent more than last fall, but differs little on a per person basis. Increases in production for carrots, cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, green peas, and green peppers more than offset smaller tonnages of lima beans, snap beans, cauliflower, spinach and tomatoes. Fresh vegetables will be relatively more plentiful this fall than they have been this summer when weather conditions were unfavorable in some areas. With per capita supplies practically the same as a year earlier and little change in consumer demand indicated, the level of retail prices for fresh vegetables probably will differ little from that of last fall.

If weather is normal, larger supplies of fresh vegetables probably will be produced next year, reflecting the relatively high prices received this year. With larger supplies, some reduction in prices is to be expected.

The 1952 total pack of canned vegetables is expected to be 15 to 20 percent smaller than that of 1951. Part of this reduction in new supply is offset by the substantially larger carry-over from the old packs, by the smaller demand from wholesale channels for replenishment of stocks, and by the expectation of somewhat smaller military takings. However, available information indicates that per capita supplies of canned vegetables moving into domestic civilian consumption in 1952-53 may be somewhat less than in 1951-52. Supplies of most items except sweet corn will be down, with reductions appearing particularly significant for tomato juice, tomato sauce, and tomato puree, canned peas and canned beets. The pressure of continued strong consumer demand on the reduced supply may lead to somewhat higher prices. In turn, somewhat higher prices and a lower carry-over next spring would be likely to encourage greater output next summer.

Changes in stocks of frozen vegetables in cold storage in the past few months indicate another large pack in the making. The new packs plus carry-over from the preceding packs are expected to be large enough to permit an increase in per capita consumption over last year's record level. Although wholesale prices for several frozen vegetables are currently a little lower than those a year earlier, retail prices for frozen vegetables during coming months probably will be about the same as in the 1951-52 pack year.

Estimated production of late potatoes this year is 9 percent larger than the relatively small 1951 output and the quality is expected to be somewhat better. Markets have been so scantily supplied this summer that late potatoes have moved faster than usual so far this year. Retail prices of potatoes in the past four months have been far above any previous prices. Although they are now declining, they will not reach last year's price level until the larger supplies become evident in local markets. If the rapid rate of movement continues, old-crop supplies might become short again next spring. However, output of 1953 early potatoes and shipments to market probably would be stepped up sufficiently to meet the demand because of the favorable prices this past spring. The high prices received by farmers in recent years are likely to encourage farmers to put more acreage into potatoes next year. Consumers might use slightly more potatoes in 1953 and early 1954 than this year if more adequate supplies are availabe at considerably lower prices.

The 9 percent increase in the sweetpotato crop from 1951 to 1952 probably will bring moderate reductions in prices from the record level of 1951-52. In the 1952 crop season, per capita consumption of sweetpotatoes probably will increase by only about one-half pound over the previous year's, and will remain low compared to recent averages. Some increase in acreage and production of sweetpotatoes in 1953 over 1952 seems likely to be stimulated by the high prices received for the 1951 and 1952 crops.

The crops of dry edible beans and dry field peas are significantly smaller this year than in 1951 and stocks carried over from last year's crops are substantially lower. Prices are expected to increase at least moderately, but consumption per person in 1952-53 probably will show relatively little change. With higher prices this year as an incentive, farmers probably will increase their plantings of beans and peas next year.

Food Grains

Continued plentiful supplies of cereals for processing into food products are in prospect for 1953. The larger crops of wheat, rice, and corn and smaller crops of rye, oats, and barley will have little effect on their utilization for food. No major change in the rates of domestic consumption of the various cereal food products is expected although prices may average a little higher than in the past year.

Wheat production this year was almost a third higher than in 1951, reaching 1.3 billion bushels. The total supply will be large enough to meet domestic food, feed and seed needs, supply 300 to 350 million bushels for export and still leave a carry-over at the end of the year more than twice as large as at the beginning. Perhaps 25 million bushels of damaged wheat are expected to be imported from Canada for feed use.

Retail prices of flour and other wheat food products may average slightly higher in 1952-53 than a year earlier. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, urban retail prices of wheat flour per 5-pound sack in August averaged 52.1 cents compared with 51.9 a year earlier. The average for 1951-52 was 52.4 cents. The price of a one-pound loaf of wheat bread in August was 16.2 cents compared with 15.7 cents for August 1951. The 1951-52 average was 15.8 cents.

Despite the smallest total supplies of rye on record this year, food use is likely to change very little. Prices probably will be slightly higher. The use of rye for alcohol and spirits was down in 1951-52 and probably will not be much different this year.

The 1952 rice crop of 47.7 million cwt. rough rice (31.0 million cwt. milled equivalent) again sets a new record, exceeding the previous record in 1951 by 9 percent and the 1941-50 average by 45 percent. Civilian consumption in 1952-53 is expected to continue at about current levels, about 5-1/2 pounds per person, and exports will again be very large. The situation in the world rice market is such that demand for U. S. rice exceeds even our large supply so allocations have been instituted. This demand situation results from (1) failure of Southeast Asia production to keep pace with increased needs of importing countries; (2) increased availability of dollars, especially in Japan and Korea; (3) higher prices for rice from Southeast Asia so that U. S. prices are now competitive. As a result of the strong over-all demand, U. S. rice prices in 1952-53 may be slightly higher than in the previous year. In August, the urban retail price of rice, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, was 18.3 cents per pound compared with 18.1 cents a year earlier. The average for the year beginning July 1951 was 17.5 cents per pound.

Food use of corn ordinarily accounts for about 5 percent of the total production and about a fifth of the sales by farmers. Consumption of corn sugar for food may be a little larger in the last part of 1952 and the first half of 1953 than in that period of 1951-52. Use of corn sirup and corn meal and grits for food is expected to be about the same as in the past year.

Prices of corn and corn products have been a little higher this summer than a year ago. With the harvesting of the bigger 1952 crop, corn prices probably will decline seasonally this fall. But continued strong demand for corn in 1952-53 probably will hold the price of corn and corn products somewhere near the 1951-52 level.

The total supply of corn for 1952-53, is slightly larger than the 1951-52 supply, but is somewhat smaller than the big supplies in 1949 and 1950. Corn supplies appear to be adequate for processing into food and nonfood products and for livestock feeding, without reducing carry-over at the close of the 1952-53 season.

The supply of oats for 1952-53 is 4 percent smaller than in 1951-52, but it is generally adequate for domestic requirements. The barley supply is 13 percent smaller than last year, principally as a result of smaller acreage. The much smaller crop of barley in the Midwest will provide smaller supplies for malting in that area. The food uses of oats and barley make up a very small part of the total utilization of these grains, and the quantities processed for food are largely determined by the demand for these products. Prices of oats and oat products probably will average near the 1951-52 level, whereas prices of barley and malt are expected to average higher.

Sugar

Civilian consumption of sugar per person in 1952 is not expected to exceed the 96.3 pound (refined basis) rate of last year. The sugar marketing quota for the current year is 7,700 thousand tons (raw value), about equal to the quantity marketed in the continental United States by primary distributors in 1951, but slightly smaller than the estimated total disappearance of approximately 8,000 thousand tons.

The domestic demand for sugar has been relatively strong this year. Marketings by primary distributors through September 30, tentatively estimated at 6,308 thousand tons, were 5 percent larger than in the same period in 1951. In addition, the retail price of sugar, after declining to 50.1 cents per 5 pounds in March, increased in each subsequent month, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. As of mid-August, the retail price of sugar was 52.3 cents per 5 pound container. Prospects for the remainder of 1952 do not indicate any sharp decline in the retail price of sugar from the mid-August level.

Current world supplies of sugar are very large, and are expected to continue so through 1953. Early indications of world production in 1952-53 point to an even larger output than the record 38.2 million tons reached in the preceding year if there is no crop restriction in Cuba. There is a good possibility that Cuba may restrict sugar grindings in 1953 because of the accumulation of surplus stocks from the 1952 grind.

The total supply of sugar available to U. S. civilians in 1953, including quantities from both domestic and foreign sources, will depend on the marketing quota or consumption requirement that will be established for the year. The consumption requirement will be set by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Sugar Act of 1948, and will take into account recent sugar consumption rates, population and demand changes, and the provision of "such supply of sugar as will be consumed at prices which will not be excessive to consumers and which will fairly and equitably maintain and protect the domestic sugar industry." The consumption requirement for 1953 must be announced by the Secretary before December 31, 1952.

WORLD FOOD SITUATION 1/

Crop prospects indicate that world food supplies for 1952-53 will reach a new high for the postwar period, largely because of a record wheat crop and a record or near-record sugar crop, combined with a large supply of sugar carried over from the large crop of 1951-52. Larger crops of apples, pears, and citrus fruits are also being harvested but supplies of most other food products are about the same or slightly lower than last year. Even with the moderate increase in food supplies for the 1952-53 season, supplies per capita will not be greatly different from those of the past four years and will remain about 10 percent below prewar. The decline in per capita food consumption, however, has been somewhat less as higher extraction rates for cereals than before the war are still required in some areas and the consumption of more cereals and more potatoes and other tuber and root crops and less livestock products has extended the supply of nutrients obtained from crops produced. Rationing is now limited to relatively few commodities such as meat, fats and sugar in the United Kingdom, grain in India where unfavorable weather has continued to hold food production below normal, and some essential foods among city populations in some eastern European countries.

World supplies of the principal breadgrains, wheat and rye, in 1952-53 are tentatively forecast at 258 million short tons, about 16 million tons above the 1935-39 average. The record output of 7.5 billion bushels of wheat results from general increases in production in all major areas except Oceania, where the prospective crop is slightly below that for 1951. Increases are particularly large in the principal exporting countries of Canada and the United States and are significant in other countries where in years of large crops, small quantities of grain are exported, such as France, Algeria and Turkey. Consequently, exportable supplies will be much above those of other recent years. In addition,

1/ Prepared by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

significant recovery is expected in Argentina where the wheat crop is yet to be harvested. On the other hand, several of the major importing countries also show increases in output, and world trade in wheat may be smaller than in recent years. The world rye crop for 1952-53 is about 90 million bushels less than last year and nearly 200 million bushels below average. Most of the decrease is in the countries of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Early prospects for the 1952-53 rice crop are generally favorable in most producing areas. Total output may be as large or slightly larger than in 1951-52 when the crop was about equal to that of the two previous years and to the prewar average. Rice production has increased little in recent years, resulting in increasing shortages of food supplies in the rice consuming areas of the Far East and increasing the demand for rice from Western Hemisphere countries. In 1951-52 the United States exported rice to several Far Eastern countries. Demand for United States rice during 1952-53 has been so great that it has been necessary to establish export allocations.

World sugar supplies during 1952-53 will be more than adequate to meet normal requirements. A record crop was harvested in 1951-52 and surpluses are available in several of the major exporting countries. Production in importing countries during 1952-53 may be as large or larger than in the preceding year and most of the exporting countries are expanding their output. The size of the 1952-53 world crop, however, will depend on the extent of restriction of sugar production in Cuba, where about 21 percent of the world output of exportable types of sugar was produced last year.

Production of edible fats and oils in 1952-53 is expected to be down slightly from 1951-52. However, with carryovers in some of the major surplus-producing countries at the beginning of 1952-53 larger than a year earlier, exportable supplies are expected to be the same or even slightly higher than in 1951-52. Olive oil production in the coming season will be considerably smaller than the record outturn last season. Both cottonseed oil and soybean oil output may approximate that of 1951-52. During the past year, prices of several fats and oils have declined sharply which is tending to discourage production of some vegetable oils. The price decline has been especially pronounced in lard, coconut oil, olive oil, palm oil, and whale oil, and prices of several of these products are now at or near the low point of the postwar period.

The expansion in the output of livestock and livestock products has been almost continuous since the end of World War II. However, droughts in several exporting countries and shortages of feedgrains in the temperate zones, have been important factors in slowing down the expansion in livestock numbers. Further increases in world livestock numbers will be more dependent on the expansion of feedgrain production and the improvement of grasslands. World supplies of livestock products during the 1952-53 season are expected to be about the same or slightly below those of the previous year. Consumption of livestock products in the principal exporting countries

continues at a high level and with the increasing population, supplies available for export are declining. This is limiting the supplies available to importing countries where, in general, consumption is still somewhat below prewar levels.

Despite the overall increase in food supplies, there are a few areas of the world where food output for 1952-53 is somewhat lower than in 1951-52. Yugoslavia has suffered a serious summer drought and may be a net importer of food during the coming season rather than a food exporter. Several other Eastern European countries reported shortage of rainfall last summer and smaller crops than last year. Food production in South Africa was seriously reduced by drought and this normally self-sufficient area is importing considerable quantities of both wheat and corn. Pakistan, also normally a surplus producing area, will have to import over 300,000 tons of grain during 1952-53 to offset its crop reduction due to drought. Australia is anticipating the smallest wheat crop of the postwar period and is likely to be unable to fill her International Wheat Agreement quota during 1952-53. Serious drought in northern Australia is causing some decline in the number of cattle which may be followed by a sharp decline in meat exports in 1953.

Most of the remaining areas of the world are reporting food supplies nearly as large or larger than in the preceding year. Unusually favorable crop conditions in Canada have resulted in record crops of wheat and barley and government stocks of beef and pork are expected to increase as a result of a price support program for farmers and the embargo on Canadian livestock and meat exports into the United States because of the outbreak of the hoof and mouth disease. Milk and cheese supplies are also far in excess of previous years. On the other hand, the potato crop is below average and will probably be below domestic requirements. New Zealand has had excellent weather for milk production and will have a surplus of dairy products for export after meeting its contracts with the United Kingdom.

Total food production in Western Europe during 1952-53 is likely to be close to last year's - the highest for any year since World War II. In the United Kingdom food production is below last year due in part to smaller crops of wheat, sugar beets and potatoes but feedgrain production is expected to be slightly above 1951. In Western Europe, breadgrain production is larger than last year; potatoes and sugar beets are below. Reduced production of feed crops may offset the output of livestock products, but not seriously. Output of these products will also depend on the size of imports of feedgrains, such as barley from North Africa and Western Asiatic countries and corn from the United States. The summer drought has been more serious in the Eastern European countries and is expected to result in a tightening of the food situation which has never been favorable in this area since the war. The reduction was particularly severe in the case of the important corn crop which is used for both food and feed.

Crop conditions in the Soviet Union have been spotty. Late and variable spring weather retarded the growth of crops. Rainy weather during a considerable part of the harvest season had an adverse effect on yields in a number of northern and central regions. But apparently, good crops were harvested in some of the southern and southeastern wheat regions. Prices of bread and a number of other foodstuffs were reduced again this spring in state stores, the principal retail outlets in the Soviet Union, thus easing further the food situation. However, shortages of various foodstuffs and considerable regional variations in the availability of foodstuffs are still common in the Soviet Union.

In the Middle Eastern countries, cereal crops are considerably better than in 1951. Turkey had a record wheat crop which was considerably in excess of domestic requirements and the grain crops of Syria, Palestine and Jordan were much larger than in the drought year of 1951. Better pasture conditions should result in some increase in the production of livestock products during 1952-53. Egypt was the only country where grain crops were below last year.

With the exception of Pakistan, the countries of the Far East report generally favorable conditions for crop output and food supplies should be at least as large as in 1951-52. Food production in this area, however, has not nearly kept up with the increase in population since prewar, and import requirements have continued to increase. During the past year, increasing quantities of rice as well as wheat and grain sorghums have moved from the United States to this area. Large imports will continue in 1952-53 but with large wheat supplies available in several export areas, the amount of grain from the United States will probably be smaller than in the preceding year. Imports of grain into India may be somewhat smaller than last year because of the greatly improved grain stock position in that country on July 1.

The marked improvement in crop prospects for Argentina for 1952-53 is the outstanding feature of the Latin American food situation. The wheat crop is expected to be at least three times as large as last year. About 100 million bushels will be available for export in contrast to small imports during 1952. There will also be considerably larger supplies of other grains available for export during the current season but meat exports may be smaller than in 1952 when domestic consumption was restricted in order to meet the British meat contract. Changes in food supplies in other Latin American countries will be minor except perhaps in Cuba where the government is seeking the cooperation of cane growers in restricting the quantity of cane cut for harvest in 1952-53.

DISTRIBUTION OF U. S. FOOD JULY 1, 1951 - JUNE 30, 1952 1/

Analysis of the distribution of United States food supplies from July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952 indicates that:

1. Civilian per capita food consumption in the 1951-52 fiscal year was about the same as a year earlier, but about 11 percent above the prewar (1935-39) average annual rate.

2. Food exports of about 47,283 million pounds in 1951-52, the second largest since World War II, were almost 9 percent above the 1950-51 total and about 5 times the prewar (1935-39) average annual level.

3. Exports accounted for 15 percent of the total quantity of United States food distribution in 1951-52, compared with 14 percent in 1950-51 and 12 percent in 1949-50.

U. S. civilian per capita food consumption high in 1951-52:

As in the past several years, with food production sustained at a high level and food exports comprised mainly of grains, domestic civilian consumption of food per person in 1951-52 was maintained at a high rate. (See table 5.) The increase in exports over 1950-51 was principally in wheat, total supplies of which were larger than our domestic needs.

The domestic demand for food in 1951-52 was relatively strong, reflecting the continued high level of employment and consumer incomes. The general food supply situation was good and there were no signs of "scare-buying," such as occurred during 1950-51. Retail food prices rose by about 2 percent from July 1951 to June 1952.

U. S. civilians took 83 percent of food distributed in 1951-52:

On a physical quantity basis, civilians in the United States took almost 83 percent of the total amount of United States food distributed during fiscal year 1951-52. (See table 6.) Exports, which include military shipments of food to occupied areas, accounted for 15 percent of the total distribution, U. S. military agencies took 2 percent for the use of troops stationed at home and abroad, and the territories of the United States received 0.4 percent.

1/ Prepared jointly by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, and the Production and Marketing Administration.

Disappearance into U. S. civilian market channels accounted for most of the distribution of many important foods in 1951-52. Civilians took over 94 percent of the meat distributed in 1951-52; 98 percent of the sugar and the peanuts; 96 percent of the vegetables (fresh and processed, combined); 96 percent of the eggs; almost 95 percent of the cheese; 93 percent of the potatoes and sweetpotatoes (combined); 90 percent of the condensed and evaporated milk (combined); 90 percent of the fruits (fresh and processed, combined); and 82 percent of the edible fats and oils.

Food exports from the United States near record:

The total quantity of food exported in 1951-52 amounted to 47,283 million pounds, almost 9 percent larger than in the preceding year and second in size to the record volume of 49,072 million pounds shipped out in 1948-49, The increase from 1950-51 was in large part due to the expansion in exports to India, Korea and the Latin American Republics. Because of poor crops in Argentina, Australia and India, and the continued small exportable supplies from the traditionally surplus rice-producing areas in Southeast Asia, the United States took a more important role as an international source for food than in 1950-51.

Exports of grains and grain products totaled 38,971 million pounds, grain equivalent, about 10 percent larger than in 1950-51. Rice exports were the largest on record, almost 75 percent above a year earlier. Sharp increases also occurred for fats and oils (30 percent), and meats (almost 40 percent). Declines were reported for dairy products (almost 50 percent) and "other foods" (7 percent).

Wheat and wheat products (grain equivalent basis) exports of 28,396 million pounds (473 million bushels) were almost 30 percent larger than in 1950-51 and the third largest in volume since the end of World War II. Exports accounted for almost 50 percent of the total amount of U. S. wheat distributed for food use in 1951-52.

Exports to European destinations, in total, were 8 percent smaller in 1951-52 than a year earlier; however, substantial increases occurred in the quantity shipped to other areas. The movement of wheat and wheat products to countries in Asia was almost twice the quantity shipped to that part of the world in 1950-51 because of the very sharp increase in exports to India. Exports to Africa were triple the quantity moved to that continent last year, largely because of reduced production in some areas together with smaller quantities of wheat available for export from Australia, an important source of supply for the continent. The shipment of wheat and wheat products to the Latin American Republics was 70 percent larger than in 1950-51. Argentina, normally the major source of wheat for South America, had a very poor wheat crop.

Exports of other grains and grain products (rice excluded) in 1951-52 totaled 10,575 million pounds (grain equivalent), about 20 percent less than in the preceding year. Reductions occurred for all the grains and grain products in this group, with the declines greatest for corn and oats, and smallest

for grain sorghums. (See table 7.) Less of the other grains and grain products were exported to all major geographical areas than in 1950-51. Substantial quantities of grain sorghums were again sent to India where this grain is used for food purposes.

Rice exports of 1,704 million pounds (milled basis) were 75 percent larger than in 1950-51 and set a new record. The quantity exported was equivalent to almost 60 percent of the total distribution of the United States rice supply for food use, and went principally to Cuba, Japan, Korea, and Indonesia. Cuba has always been an important market for U. S. rice. The larger movement of rice to the Far East in 1951-52, compared with a year earlier, resulted from the decline in the exportable supplies from the traditionally surplus rice-producing areas in Southeast Asia, increased dollar availability in those countries--especially in Japan and Korea, and the increase in prices for rice from Southeast Asia, which made U. S. rice more competitive.

Fiscal Year 1951-52

Exported as grain:

	Million pounds	Million bushels
Wheat	25,834	430.6
Corn	4,435	79.2
Rye	257	4.6
Oats	38	2.1
Barley	1,241	25.8
Grain sorghums	4,024	71.9
Total	35,829	----

Exported as grain products:

	Million pounds, product weight	Million bushels, grain equivalent
Wheat flour	1,816	42.4
Semolina	7	.2
Macaroni	5	.1
Wheat cereals	2	1/
Rice (milled basis)	1,704	
(rough equiv.)	-----	56.2
Corn meal	27	.8
Corn grits	40	1.4
Corn starch and and flour	57	1.6
Oatmeal	34	2.6
Malt	177	5.2
Pearl barley	2/	1/
Total	3,869	----
Total excl. rice	2,165	----

1/ Less than 50,000 bushels.
2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

The out-movement of food fats and oils from this country in 1951-52 totaled 1,358 million pounds, 30 percent above a year earlier and probably the largest U. S. export tonnage of record. Significantly larger quantities than in 1950-51 were shipped to Europe and to the Latin American Republics. Among the factors that encouraged larger exports in 1951-52 were the relatively low prices of fats and oils in the United States, the small peanut crop in Africa, and the reduced output of olive oil in the Mediterranean area from the 1950 olive crop.

Meat exports totaled only 129 million pounds, but were 39 percent above those in 1950-51. Most of the increase went to Germany, the Netherlands, and the Latin American Republics. Pork was the principal meat exported. The total quantity of U. S. meat distributed in 1951-52 was only slightly larger than a year earlier. Civilians received more than 94 percent of the total distribution, sufficient to maintain consumption of meat per capita at about the 1950-51 rate. Military takings of meat in 1951-52 were about equal to those of a year earlier and accounted for 5 percent of the total meat distribution. Exports represented 0.5 percent of total distribution.

Exports of cheese, canned milk, and dried milk in 1951-52 totaled 334 million pounds, almost 50 percent smaller than a year earlier and the lowest for this group of commodities since the end of World War II. Among the individual items, cheese exports were 55 percent smaller than in 1950-51, canned milk declined 15 percent, dried whole milk was 22 percent smaller, and exports of nonfat dry milk solids declined by more than 75 percent. The substantial reduction in the total exports of these dairy commodities was largely the result of the increased U. S. civilian demand for dairy products as a whole which, together with a slight decline in milk production, limited the supplies of manufactured dairy products available for export. In the recent years prior to 1951-52 large quantities of dairy products which were in excess of domestic demand, especially nonfat dry milk solids, were disposed of through relief programs abroad, such as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, and other foreign outlets. In terms of total distribution of United States supplies in 1951-52, exports accounted for about 4 percent of the cheese, 6 percent of the canned milk, and 14 percent of the dried milk.

Aggregate exports of the other foods--mostly fruits, vegetables, and soybeans--amounted to 4,787 million pounds almost 7 percent smaller than in 1950-51. Exports of peanuts and soybeans, as in the preceding postwar years, were mainly for crushing for oil abroad.

MSA countries in Europe took largest share of U. S. food exports:

European countries participating in the Mutual Security Program, in total, received the largest share of the food exported from the United States in 1951-52. (See table 8.) This area in Europe obtained 20,909 million pounds, 44 percent of the total food exports from this country, but somewhat less than a year earlier.

Other European countries received 380 million pounds; Africa, 1,252 million pounds; Asia--principally India and Japan--received 14,944 million pounds (32 percent of the total); and areas in the Western Hemisphere, 9,793 million pounds (21 percent of our total exports).

India received more of the food exported from the United States in 1951-52 than did any other country (7,488 million pounds). These exports were financed in large part by loans from this country. India was the largest recipient of wheat and wheat products (6,212 million pounds, grain equivalent) and the third largest recipient of other grains and grain products (1,263 million pounds, grain equivalent). In addition, minor quantities of fats and oils, dairy products, and "other foods" were shipped to this destination.

Food exports to Western Germany totaled 4,908 million pounds, the second largest quantity shipped to any single destination. Most of the food shipped to this country was wheat and wheat products (3,258 million pounds, grain equivalent) and other grains and grain products (1,500 million pounds, grain equivalent).

Other countries which received substantial quantities of food from the United States in 1951-52 were Japan (3,999 million pounds), the United Kingdom (3,674 million pounds), Canada (2,621 million pounds), Netherlands (2,300 million pounds), and Belgium and Luxembourg (2,034 million pounds).

The Latin American Republics received 6,876 million pounds of food from the United States. Exports of all major classes of foods to this area, except for rice and dairy products, were larger than in 1950-51. The increase in grain exports over a year earlier, amounting to more than 60 percent, was in large part due to the fact that some of the countries in this area were unable to obtain sufficient supplies from Argentina, which had a poor crop last year.

Role of U. S. Department of Agriculture in food exporting diminishes:

Less than one-fifth of the total food exports was procured through the Department of Agriculture, thus continuing the increasing shift in recent years to commercial procurement. The U. S. military agencies and a few countries receiving financial assistance from the United States still depended upon the Department for procurement of grains. The Department handled about 20 percent of the wheat and wheat products and the rice exported in 1951-52, almost 15 percent of the other grains and grain products, about 40 percent of the nonfat dry milk solids, and more than 50 percent of the eggs, all of which were exported in the form of dried eggs.

Table 5.- Civilian per capita consumption of food, United States, average 1935-39 and fiscal years 1950-51 and 1951-52

Commodity	Fiscal year 1951-52	Fiscal year 1950-51	Average 1935-39
	Index 1935-39=100		
Index of per capita consumption of all foods 1/	111	111	100
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Wheat flour and other wheat cereal products (grain equivalent)	188	189	226
Other grains and grain products-total	42.7	43.2	47.7
Corn and corn products (grain equiv.) 2/	30.5	31.1	36.0
Oats, barley, rye, and grain sorghums (grain equivalent) 3/	12.2	12.1	11.7
Rice (milled basis)	5.5	5.8	5.6
Fats and oils edible--total (product weight)	46.5	47.6	48.6
Butter	9.1	10.2	16.7
Lard	12.0	12.4	11.0
Margarine	7.3	6.4	2.9
Shortening and other edible fats and oils	18.1	18.6	18.0
Meats (carcass weight equivalent) 4/	139	140	126.2
Dairy products:			
Cheese	7.5	7.5	5.5
Condensed and evaporated milk	18.1	18.8	16.7
Dried milk	4.5	4.5	2.0
Other foods:			
Potatoes	99	103	131
Sweetpotatoes	7.4	11.9	21.4
Dry beans and peas	8.6	9.3	9.4
Sugar, beet and cane (refined)	96.4	97.0	97.0
Eggs (shell equivalent)	51.0	48.3	37.3
Fruits:			
Fresh (farm weight)	112	114	138
Processed (product weight) 5/	43.0	42.4	25.4
Vegetables (excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes):			
Fresh (farm weight)	247	252	235
Processed (product weight) 6/	46.2	43.7	30.3
Peanuts (farmers' stock equivalent, excluding oil)	6.4	6.3	6.4
Soybeans (excluding oil)	1.4	1.4	7/
Miscellaneous 8/	611.3	611.3	524.2

1/ Weighted by average retail prices for 1935-39. 2/ Excludes quantities consumed as corn sugar, corn sirups, and alcoholic beverages. 3/ Includes grain equivalent of malt, oatmeal, and rye flour; excludes grains used for alcoholic beverages. 4/ Excludes offals. 5/ Excludes canned baby foods. 6/ Excludes canned baby foods and soups. 7/ Less than 0.05 pounds. 8/ Includes meat offals, poultry, fish, corn and maple sugars, sirups, honey, dairy products (not elsewhere specified), coffee, tea, cocoa beans, and canned baby foods and soups, etc.

Table 6.- Distribution of United States food supplies, fiscal year 1951-52

Commodity	Total food distribution 1/	Percent of total food distribution			
		U. S. civilians	U. S. military	U. S. territories 2/	Exports 3/
	Mil. lb.	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total food	318,875	82.6	2.2	0.4	14.8
Wheat and wheat products (grain equivalent)	57,948	49.7	.9	.4	49.0
Other grains--total (grain equivalent)	17,211	38.0	.1	.4	61.5
Corn and corn products	9,392	49.8	.1	.5	4/ 49.6
Barley, oats, rye and grain sorghums	7,819	23.9	.1	.3	5/ 75.7
Rice (milled basis)	2,924	28.7	1.1	11.9	58.3
Fats and oils, edible (including butter) 6/	8,702	81.9	1.7	.8	15.6
Meats (carcass weight equivalent)	22,578	94.3	5.0	.2	.5
Dairy products (product weight):					
Cheese	1,209	94.5	1.7	.3	3.5
Condensed and evaporated milk	3,094	89.9	3.7	.9	5.5
Dried milk	859	81.1	2.6	2.2	14.1
Other foods:					
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes (farm weight equivalent)	17,560	93.1	4.1	.5	2.3
Dry beans and peas (including indirect uses)	1,875	70.8	2.7	3.4	23.1
Sugar (refined)	14,319	97.9	1.4	-	.7
Eggs (shell equivalent)	8,174	95.6	2.3	.1	2.0
Fruits:					
Fresh (farm weight)	12,696	91.9	1.6	.2	6.3
Processed (product weight)	7,769	84.8	7.1	.6	7.5
Vegetables - (excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes):					
Fresh (farm weight)	38,832	97.4	1.1	.1	1.4
Processed (product weight)	7,888	89.7	7.9	.8	1.6
Peanuts (farmers' stock equivalent, excluding oil) 7/	1,003	97.6	.9	-	1.5
Soybeans (excluding oil) 7/	1,174	18.1	0	-	81.9
Miscellaneous 8/	87,060	97.6	2.1	-	.3

1/ Equals production plus imports and carry-in stocks minus domestic non-food use, duplication, and carry-out stocks. 2/ Partly estimated. 3/ Includes exports of food by U. S. military agencies for civilian relief feeding programs in occupied areas. 4/ Includes corn for both food and nonfood purposes. Measured in terms of the total distribution of U. S. corn, exports account for 2.6 percent. 5/ Includes quantities used for nonfood purposes. 6/ Excludes oil equivalent of peanuts and soybeans exported as such. 7/ Excludes quantities crushed in the United States for oil for domestic consumption and export; includes exports of peanuts and soybeans for all uses. 8/ Includes meat offals, horsemeat, poultry, fish, corn and maple sugars, sirups, honey, tree nuts, coffee, tea, cocoa beans, baby foods, soups, fluid milk and cream, and other dairy products (not elsewhere specified).

Table 7.- Food exports from the United States, by major groups, average 1935-39 and fiscal years 1945-46 to 1951-52 1/

Commodity	Fiscal year 1951-52	Fiscal year 1950-51	Fiscal year 1949-50	Fiscal year 1948-49	Fiscal year 1947-48	Fiscal year 1946-47	Fiscal year 1945-46	Average 1935-39
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Total exports	47,283	43,439	34,868	49,072	43,323	42,948	38,973	9,460
Wheat and wheat products (grain equiv.) 2/	28,396	21,956	17,946	30,188	29,148	23,901	23,565	3,060
Other grains, total (grain equiv.)	10,575	13,546	9,637	9,598	4,998	9,330	2,931	2,991
Corn and corn products 3/	4,657	6,667	6,203	5,235	2,234	6,704	1,268	2,296
Barley, oats, rye, and grain sorghums 4/	5,918	6,879	3,434	4,363	2,764	2,626	1,663	695
Rice (milled basis)	1,704	979	1,013	914	911	860	782	186
Fats and oils, edible (including butter)	1,358	1,045	1,147	891	562	509	705	195
Meats (carcass weight equiv.)	129	93	94	75	152	405	1,375	123
Dairy products (product weight):								
Cheese	42	93	28	151	104	158	299	1
Condensed and evaporated milk	171	202	221	427	563	638	1,083	31
Dried milk	121	365	315	294	363	311	391	6
Other foods, total	4,787	5,160	4,467	6,534	6,522	6,836	7,842	2,867
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes (farm weight equiv.)	409	342	697	2,061	1,013	900	1,633	116
Dry beans and peas (including indirect uses	434	337	146	315	534	500	862	54
Sugar (refined)	95	103	44	99	243	557	792	195
Eggs (shell equivalent)	167	364	210	89	326	536	608	3
Fruits, total	1,771	1,465	1,336	1,456	1,946	2,237	1,671	1,922
Fresh (farm weight)	1,184	948	759	802	1,071	1,410	1,044	1,197
Processed (product weight)	587	517	577	654	875	827	627	725
Vegetables, total (excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes)	691	551	525	392	431	669	1,224	134
Fresh (farm weight)	548	466	452	307	260	473	937	92
Processed (product weight)	143	85	73	85	171	196	287	42
Peanuts (farmers' stock equiv., excluding oil) 5/	15	62	225	684	532	279	99	1
Soybeans (excluding oil) 5/	961	1,614	1,022	1,109	1,160	646	533	240
Miscellaneous 6/	244	322	262	329	337	512	420	202

1/ Excludes shipments to the territories of the United States.

2/ Excludes exports of flour milled in bond and quantity of USDA-owned grain shipped to Canada for storage.

3/ Excludes quantity of USDA-owned grain shipped to Canada for storage.

4/ Includes malt, oatmeal, and rye flour; excludes quantity of USDA-owned grain shipped to Canada for storage.

5/ Exports of peanut oil and soybean oil included with edible fats and oils above. Soybeans include bean equivalent of full-fat soya flour and meal exports.

6/ Includes meat offals, horsemeat, poultry, fish, corn sugar, sirups, honey, tree nuts, coffee, tea, cocoa beans, fluid milk and cream, and other dairy products (not elsewhere specified).

Table 8.- Food exports from the United States, by destination fiscal year 1951-52 1/

Destination	Total	Wheat and wheat products (grain equiv.)	Other grains and products (grain equiv.) 2/	Rice (milled basis)	Fats and oils 3/	Meats (carcass weight) 4/	Dairy products 5/	Other foods 6/
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Total food exports	47,283	28,396	10,575	1,704	1,358	129	334	4,787
Europe, total 7/	21,289	12,350	6,722	29	849	41	97	1,201
MSA participating countries, total	20,909	12,137	6,665	29	763	41	97	1,177
Austria	1,133	566	515	0	48	1	*	3
Belgium and Luxembourg	2,034	854	872	6	41	*	*	261
Denmark	167	70	75	0	*	*	*	22
France and French North Africa	1,774	1,376	239	0	23	*	*	136
Germany	4,908	3,258	1,500	0	97	16	*	37
Greece	1,120	1,028	29	21	*	2	17	23
Iceland	27	16	3	*	3	*	*	5
Ireland	386	69	302	*	1	0	0	14
Italy and Trisste	1,676	1,563	69	0	29	*	2	13
Netherlands	2,300	997	863	0	156	22	0	262
Norway	605	293	257	0	0	*	0	55
Portugal	235	235	*	0	*	*	*	*
Sweden	208	150	24	0	7	*	*	27
Switzerland	440	326	22	2	33	0	*	57
Turkey	51	0	*	0	0	0	0	51
United Kingdom	3,674	1,233	1,895	0	261	*	75	210
Yugoslavia	171	103	*	0	64	0	3	1
Soviet bloc countries, total	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
U.S.S.R.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other 8/	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
Other Europe, total	380	213	57	0	86	*	*	24
Spain	193	55	52	0	86	0	0	*
Finland	134	107	3	0	0	*	0	24
Other 9/	53	51	2	0	0	0	*	*
Africa, total 10/	1,252	1,143	85	7	1	1	2	13
Asia, total	14,944	10,426	2,521	1,090	28	4	121	754
China	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
Taiwan (Formosa)	287	172	2	0	1	*	3	109
India	7,488	6,212	1,263	0	*	0	1	12
Pakistan	110	0	103	0	1	0	0	6
Israel	511	435	2	*	11	*	11	52
Japan and Ryukyu	3,999	2,729	399	534	9	*	30	298
Korea	1,095	97	655	308	*	0	0	35
Philippine Republic	420	203	35	7	4	3	60	108
Other 11/	1,034	578	62	241	2	1	16	134
Oceania, total 12/	5	1	*	1	*	*	*	3
Western Hemisphere, total	9,793	4,476	1,247	577	480	83	114	2,816
Canada	2,621	42	539	44	85	26	3	1,882
Latin American Republics	6,876	4,265	640	528	387	50	110	896
Other 13/	296	169	68	5	8	7	1	38

1/ Excludes shipments to the territories of the United States. 2/ Includes corn and corn products (except corn sugar and sirups), barley and malt, oats and oatmeal, rye and rye flour, and grain sorghums. See table 9 for commodity details. 3/ Includes butter, lard, margarine, shortening, and other edible fats and oils. 4/ Meat offals and horsemeat are included with "other foods." 5/ Includes cheese, condensed and evaporated milk, dried whole milk, and nonfat dry milk solids. See table 10 for commodity details. 6/ Includes potatoes and sweetpotatoes, dry beans and peas, sugar, eggs, fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, peanuts, and other foods. See table 11 for commodity details. 7/ Includes French North Africa (i.e., Algeria, French Morocco, and Tunisia) and Turkey. 8/ Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Rumania. 9/ Azores, Gibraltar, Malta, Gozo and Cyprus. 10/ Excludes French North Africa. 11/ Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi-Arabia, Arabia Peninsula States, n.e.c., Aden, Bahrein, Afghanistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, French Indo-China, British Malaya, Indonesia, Portuguese Asia, Southern and Southeastern Asia, n.e.c., and Hong Kong. 12/ Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, British Western Pacific Islands, French Pacific Islands, and Western Pacific Islands, n.e.c. 13/ Greenland, Miquelon and St. Pierre, British Honduras, Bermuda, British West Indies, Netherlands Antilles, French West Indies, British Guiana, French Guiana, Surinam, and Falkland Islands.

* Less than 500,000 pounds.

Table 9.- Exports of grains other than wheat and rice, grain equivalent, from the United States, by destination, fiscal year 1951-52 1/

Destination	Total	Corn and corn products 2/	Barley and malt	Oats and oatmeal	Grain sorghums	Rye and rye flour
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Total exports	10,575	4,657	1,490	147	4,024	257
Europe, total 3/	6,722	3,729	269	49	2,419	256
MSA participating countries, total	6,665	3,674	267	49	2,419	256
Austria	515	320	0	0	129	66
Belgium and Luxembourg	872	485	193	6	173	15
Denmark	75	55	0	0	20	0
France and French North Africa	239	237	2	*	*	0
Germany	1,500	132	0	12	1,206	150
Greece	29	1	0	28	0	0
Iceland	3	1	*	1	0	1
Ireland	302	63	0	0	239	0
Italy and Trieste	69	59	0	0	0	10
Netherlands	863	535	63	0	257	8
Norway	257	144	0	0	113	0
Portugal	*	*	0	0	0	0
Sweden	24	*	4	0	20	0
Switzerland	22	9	5	2	0	6
Turkey	*	*	0	*	0	0
United Kingdom	1,895	1,633	0	0	262	0
Yugoslavia	*	*	0	0	0	0
Soviet bloc countries, total	0	0	0	0	0	0
U.S.S.R.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other 4/	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Europe, total	57	55	2	0	0	0
Spain	52	52	0	0	0	0
Finland	3	3	0	0	0	0
Other 5/	2	*	2	0	0	0
Africa, total 6/	85	74	10	1	0	0
Asia, total	2,521	78	830	9	1,604	0
China	0	0	0	0	0	0
Taiwan (Formosa)	2	0	2	*	0	0
India	1,263	22	0	*	1,241	0
Pakistan	103	0	0	*	103	0
Israel	2	*	0	2	0	0
Japan and Ryukyu	399	25	374	*	0	0
Korea	655	0	395	0	260	0
Philippine Republic	35	28	3	4	0	0
Other 7/	62	3	56	3	0	0
Oceania, total 8/	*	*	*	*	0	0
Western Hemisphere, total	1,247	776	381	88	1	1
Canada	539	439	99	*	*	1
Latin American Republics	640	270	282	87	1	*
Other 9/	68	67	0	1	0	0

1/ Excludes shipments to territories of the United States. Exports of corn, barley, oats, and grain sorghums include quantities to be used for nonfood purposes, such as seed, livestock feed, etc.
2/ Excludes corn sugar and corn sirups, which are included in "other foods."
3/ Includes French North Africa (i.e., Algeria, French Morocco, and Tunisia) and Turkey.
4/ Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Rumania.
5/ Azores, Gibraltar, Malta, Gozo, and Cyprus.
6/ Excludes French North Africa.
7/ Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi-Arabia, Arabia Peninsula States, n.e.c., Aden, Bahrein, Afghanistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, French Indo-China, British Malaya, Indonesia, Portuguese Asia, Southern and Southeastern Asia, n.e.c., and Hong Kong.
8/ Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, British Western Pacific Islands, French Pacific Islands, and Western Pacific Islands, n.e.c.
9/ Greenland, Miquelon and St. Pierre, British Honduras, Bermuda, British West Indies, Netherlands Antilles, French West Indies, British Guiana, French Guiana, Surinam, and Falkland Islands.

* Less than 500,000 pounds.

Table 10.- Exports of dairy products from the United States, by destination, fiscal year 1951-52 1/

Destination	Total	Cheese	Condensed and evaporated milk	Dried milk 2/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Total exports	334	42	171	121
Europe, total 3/	97	39	53	5
MSA participating countries, total	97	39	53	5
Austria	*	0	0	*
Belgium and Luxembourg	*	*	*	*
Denmark	*	0	*	0
France and French North Africa	*	*	*	*
Germany	*	0	0	*
Greece	17	2	15	*
Iceland	*	0	*	0
Ireland	0	0	0	0
Italy and Trieste	2	*	*	2
Netherlands	0	0	0	0
Norway	0	0	0	0
Portugal	*	0	*	*
Sweden	*	0	0	*
Switzerland	*	*	0	0
Turkey	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	75	37	38	0
Yugoslavia	3	0	0	3
Soviet bloc countries, total	0	0	0	0
U.S.S.R.	0	0	0	0
Other 4/	0	0	0	0
Other Europe, total	*	0	*	0
Spain	0	0	0	0
Finland	0	0	0	0
Other 5/	*	0	*	0
Africa, total 6/	2	*	*	2
Asia, total	121	*	70	51
China	0	0	0	0
Taiwan (Formosa)	3	0	2	1
India	1	*	*	1
Pakistan	0	0	0	0
Israel	11	*	*	11
Japan and Ryukyu	30	*	*	30
Korea	0	0	0	0
Philippine Republic	60	*	58	2
Other 7/	16	*	10	6
Oceania, total 8/	*	*	*	*
Western Hemisphere, total	114	3	48	63
Canada	3	1	2	*
Latin American Republics	110	2	46	62
Other 9/	1	*	*	1

1/ Excludes shipments to the territories of the United States.
2/ Dried whole milk and nonfat dry milk solids.
3/ Includes French North Africa (i.e., Algeria, French Morocco, and Tunisia) and Turkey.
4/ Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Rumania.
5/ Azores, Gibraltar, Malta, Gozo, and Cyprus.
6/ Excludes French North Africa.
7/ Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi-Arabia, Arabia Peninsula States, n.e.c., Aden, Bahrein, Afghanistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, French Indo-China, British Malaya, Indonesia, Portuguese Asia, Southern and Southeastern Asia, n.e.c., and Hong Kong.
8/ Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, British Western Pacific Islands, French Pacific Islands, and Western Pacific Islands, n.e.c.
9/ Greenland, Miquelon and St. Pierre, British Honduras, Bermuda, British West Indies, Netherlands Antilles, French West Indies, British Guiana, French Guiana, Surinam, and Falkland Islands.

* Less than 500,000 pounds.

Table 11.- Exports of other foods from the United States, by destination, fiscal year 1951-52 1/

Destination	Total other foods	Potatoes and sweet potatoes	Dry beans and peas	Beet and cane sugar (refined)	Eggs (shell equiv.)	Fruits, total	Vegetables, total	Peanuts 2/	Soybeans 2/	Miscellaneous 3/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Total exports	4,787	409	434	95	167	1,771	691	15	961	244
Europe, total 4/	1,201	*	104	30	92	569	9	10	325	62
MSA participating countries, total	1,177	*	104	30	92	545	9	10	325	62
Austria	3	0	*	0	2	1	*	0	0	*
Belgium and Luxembourg	261	0	9	0	*	132	4	*	94	22
Denmark	22	0	*	0	0	3	*	*	16	3
France and French North Africa	136	0	*	6	*	42	*	*	85	3
Germany	37	0	2	*	8	21	*	3	*	3
Greece	23	0	20	0	1	*	*	0	0	2
Iceland	5	*	*	4	0	1	*	0	0	*
Ireland	14	0	*	0	0	2	*	0	0	12
Italy and Trieste	13	0	1	1	3	7	*	0	0	1
Netherlands	262	0	25	6	*	131	1	*	89	10
Norway	55	0	*	1	*	10	*	7	37	*
Portugal	*	0	0	0	*	*	*	0	0	*
Sweden	27	0	0	0	*	27	*	0	0	*
Switzerland	57	0	3	1	5	36	3	*	4	5
Turkey	51	0	0	0	*	51	0	0	0	*
United Kingdom	210	0	44	11	73	81	1	0	0	*
Yugoslavia	1	0	*	*	*	*	0	0	0	1
Soviet Bloc countries, total	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*
U.S.S.R.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other 5/	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*
Other Europe, total	24	0	0	0	*	24	*	0	0	*
Spain	*	0	0	0	*	*	0	0	0	0
Finland	24	0	0	0	*	24	*	0	0	*
Other 6/	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*
Africa, total 7/	13	*	*	2	*	2	1	0	*	8
Asia, total	754	8	38	49	7	133	20	*	401	98
China	*	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0
Taiwan (Formosa)	109	0	*	0	0	0	*	0	109	*
India	12	0	*	0	2	*	*	0	0	10
Pakistan	6	0	0	5	0	*	*	0	0	1
Israel	52	*	8	1	2	2	*	0	38	1
Japan and Ryukyu	298	*	*	41	*	9	2	*	240	6
Korea	35	0	30	0	1	*	0	0	0	4
Philippine Republic	108	6	*	*	*	34	12	*	7	49
Other 8/	134	2	*	2	2	88	6	*	7	27
Oceania, total 9/	3	*	*	*	*	2	*	*	0	1
Western Hemisphere, total	2,816	401	292	14	68	1,065	661	5	235	75
Canada	1,882	225	18	2	5	858	506	4	235	29
Latin American Republics	896	171	270	8	62	195	147	1	*	42
Other 10/	38	5	4	4	1	12	8	*	0	4

1/ Excludes shipments to the territories of the United States.
2/ Excludes oil; soybeans include the bean equivalent of soya flour and meal.
3/ Includes meat offals, horsemeat, poultry, fish, corn sugar, sirups, honey, treenuts, coffee, tea, cocoa beans, fluid milk and cream, and dairy products, n.e.c.
4/ Includes French North Africa (i.e., Algeria, French Morocco, and Tunisia) and Turkey.
5/ Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Rumania.
6/ Azores, Gibralter, Malta, Gozo, and Cyprus.
7/ Excludes French North Africa.
8/ Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi-Arabia, Arabia Penninsula States, n.e.c., Aden, Bahrein, Afghanistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Burma, Thailand, French Indo-China, British Malaya, Indonesia, Portuguese Asia, Southern and Southeastern Asia, n.e.c., and Hong Kong.
9/ Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, British Western Pacific Islands, French Pacific Islands, and Western Pacific Islands, n.e.c.
10/ Greenland, Miquelon and St. Pierre, British Honduras, Bermuda, British West Indies, Netherlands Antilles, French West Indies, British Guiana, French Guiana, Surinam, and Falkland Islands.

* Less than 500,000 pounds.

Table 12.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel. 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Meats (carcass weight)							
Beef	Mil.lb.	6,937	9,538	8,843	9,600	138	109
Veal	Mil.lb.	1,038	1,230	1,061	1,100	106	104
Lamb and mutton	Mil.lb.	870	597	522	600	69	115
Pork (excluding lard)	Mil.lb.	7,337	10,714	11,483	11,300	154	98
Total meats	Mil.lb.	16,182	22,079	21,909	22,600	140	103
Fish (edible weight)							
Fresh and frozen	Mil.lb.	615	760	770	3/	---	---
Canned 4/	Mil.lb.	337	643	488	3/	---	---
Cured	Mil.lb.	74	63	63	3/	---	---
Total fish	Mil.lb.	1,026	1,466	1,321	3/	---	---
Poultry and eggs							
Eggs	Mil.doz.	3,335	5,384	5,441	5,615	168	103
Chickens (dr.wt.)	Mil.lb.	2,327	4,061	4,357	4,750	204	104
Turkey (dr. wt.)	Mil.lb.	350	736	836	925	264	111
Dairy products							
Total milk 5/	Bil.lb.	106.4	117.6	116.5	114.8	108	99
Cheese 6/	Mil.lb.	669	1,193	1,161	1,135	170	98
Cond. and evap. milk	Mil.lb.	2,225	3,205	3,231	2,988	134	92
Ice cream (product weight)	Mil.lb.	1,232	2,550	2,613	2,700	219	103
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	Mil.lb.	2,170	1,648	1,452	1,380	64	95
Lard 7/	Mil.lb.	1,630	2,631	2,364	2,820	173	98
Margarine (fat content)	Mil.lb.	303	764	845	1,005	332	119
Shortening	Mil.lb.	1,529	1,710	1,404	1,584	104	113
Other edible fats and oils 8/	Mil.lb.	575	1,611	2,114	1,862	324	88
Total fats and oils 9/	Mil.lb.	6,207	8,364	8,679	8,651	139	100
Fruits							
Fresh:							
Citrus	Mil.lb.	6,875	10/6,754	7,634	7,816	114	102
Apples (commercial)	Mil.lb.	4,385	3,894	3,538	3,550	81	100
Other (excl. melons)	Mil.lb.	4,703	4,052	4,425	4,325	92	98
Processed:							
Canned fruit	Mil.lb.	1,705	2,716	3,109	2,755	162	89
Canned fruit juices	Mil.lb.	333	2,085	2,441	1,950	586	80
Frozen (incl.juice)	Mil.lb.	106	785	802	940	887	117
Dried	Mil.lb.	1,118	743	949	958	86	101

- Continued

Table 12.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1950, 1951 and estimates for 1952, with percentage comparisons 1/- Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 Prel. 2/	1952 as a percentage of 1935-39	1952 as a percentage of 1951
Vegetables							
Fresh 11/	Mil.lb.	30,520	10/38,794	10/38,944	10/37,800	124	97
Canned	Mil.lb.	4,030	5,907	7,799	6,400	159	82
Frozen	Mil.lb.	12/ 78	587	770	725	929	94
Potatoes	Mil.bu.	355	430	326	346	97	106
Sweetpotatoes	Mil.bu.	68	50	28	31	46	111
Dry edible beans 13/	Mil.lb.	1,360	1,513	1,600	1,515	111	95
Dry field peas 13/	Mil.lb.	229	295	348	245	107	70
Canned baby foods	Mil.lb.	48	547	503	550	1,146	109
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 sh.tons	1,948	2,460	2,042	2,100	108	103
Grains							
Wheat	Mil.bu.	759	1,019	987	1,299	171	132
Rye	Mil.bu.	44.9	21.3	21.4	15.8	35	74
Rice, milled	Mil.lb.	1,340	2,644	2,522	2,964	221	118
Corn, grain only	Mil.bu.	2,050	2,760	2,653	2,920	142	110
Oats	Mil.bu.	1,045	1,410	1,316	1,266	121	96
Barley	Mil.bu.	239	304	255	222	93	87
Peanuts, farmers' stock basis	Mil.lb.	1,229	2,022	1,676	1,225	100	73

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; rice on a marketing year. 2/Preliminary estimates based on trends in livestock numbers, current or prospective rates of output, average or probable acreages and yields, and such other data or advance estimates as are available. These estimates are used only to indicate the general level of food supplies for domestic consumption for 1952, but they are based on such official estimates as are available at this time. Revisions will of course be made from time to time throughout the year as official indications or estimates are issued through the Crop Reporting Service of the Department. 3/Not available. 4/Excludes canned food products containing small quantities of fish such as clam chowder, etc. 5/ These estimates include farm production of milk as reported by the Crop Reporting Board in "Farm Production, Disposition, and Income from Milk 1950-51" (April 1952) and a tentative allowance for nonfarm production of 2.8 billion pounds in 1935-39, 1.0 in 1950, 0.9 in 1951, and 0.8 billion pounds in 1952. 6/Excludes full skim, cottage, pot and bakers' cheese. 7/Includes amount used in manufactured food and nonfood products. 8/Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other minor uses such as fish canning. 9/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 10/ Unrevised for results of the 1950 Census of Agriculture. 11/Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipment plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 12/Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 13/Cleaned basis.

Table 13.- Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, 1940-50 and 1951-52 by months

(Index numbers 1935-39=100)

Year and month	Meats 1/	Eggs	Dairy products 2/	Fats and oils 3/	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables: Fresh	Fruit and vegetables: Canned	Fruit and vegetables: Dried	Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
1940	96	94	101	82	97	97	92	101	97	92	97	100
1941	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	106	105
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	126	122	124	117
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	177	130	166	126	124	136	126
1945	131	164	134	124	109	188	130	168	126	125	139	129
1946	161	169	165	152	125	191	141	190	144	140	160	140
1947	217	201	186	198	155	202	166	264	180	187	194	160
1948	246	209	205	196	171	212	158	247	174	205	210	172
1949	233	201	187	148	170	219	153	227	176	221	202	170
1950	244	174	185	144	173	206	146	229	180	313	204	172
1951	272	211	206	169	188	223	166	250	187	344	227	186
Jan.	264	192	203	172	185	220	161	253	186	341	222	182
Feb.	270	180	204	176	187	233	165	257	186	343	226	184
Mar.	272	195	205	177	188	221	167	257	186	343	226	184
Apr.	273	191	204	178	188	216	169	258	186	344	226	185
May	273	198	204	177	188	226	170	257	185	345	227	185
June	272	201	204	175	188	224	170	254	186	345	227	185
July	273	212	205	169	189	222	170	251	188	345	228	186
Aug.	275	226	206	163	189	209	166	248	188	345	227	186
Sept	276	239	206	162	189	204	164	246	188	345	227	187
Oct.	277	243	208	161	189	214	163	241	187	346	229	187
Nov.	274	242	210	158	190	235	163	238	187	347	231	189
Dec.	270	217	213	158	190	255	163	239	186	347	232	189
1952												
Jan.	272	184	216	155	191	263	163	239	186	347	232	189
Feb.	271	166	217	151	191	235	164	238	185	347	228	188
Mar.	268	161	216	146	191	248	164	236	184	347	228	188
Apr.	267	166	213	143	191	273	164	237	186	347	230	189
May	266	164	211	140	194	283	164	237	187	347	231	189
June	271	169	210	140	193	278	162	237	188	346	232	190
July	270	209	212	141	194	283	162	239	189	346	235	191
Aug.	277	217	214	141	194	265	163	241	190	347	236	191

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The consumer price index is adjusted for "new unit bias" in rents beginning 1940; in addition, beginning 1950 all series are adjusted for expanded commodity coverage and revisions in both commodity and population weights. Detailed description of the adjustments are published in the April 1951 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

1/ Includes chicken and fish.

2/ Includes butter.

3/ Excludes butter.

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